



Dear Friends in League,
As I write, I am on a River cruise in Germany where our tour directors just held a mock election for the German parliament, the Bundestag, after presenting campaign speeches to represent six of the many parties that are vying for seats in Sunday's (9/26) election.

Our Dutch program director tells us that many Europeans will be sad to see Angela Merkle step down after 17 years as Chancellor of Germany.

In the last election in 2017, 69% of eligible voters voted in Germany compared to 56% of eligible voters in our 2020 US presidential election. I hope our League will have success in encouraging more citizens decide to become voters on National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 28.

I hope that many of our League members will be able to attend the LWWVI Issues Briefing on Saturday, October 30 from 9-noon on Zoom. The morning will feature a keynote address by Sara



Eskrich of Democracy Found on election system innovations and breakout sessions on issues of concern to League members.

Also, remember to attend the program on affordable housing at the HPL on October 12 and the BJSO concert on Oct 23. Our League is involved with both of these events.

I'll see you soon.

Linda

The "Janesville League of Women Voters" on YouTube



Search YouTube for the "Janesville League of Women Voters" channel, and you will be able to view our interviews with our League's Life-

time Members (Judy Adler, Carolyn Brandeen, Jan Kinnaman and Nancy Stabb) and watch the recording of our Earth Day forum, "Carbon Neutrality for Janesville by 2050?" that we conducted in April. You may even decide to subscribe!



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AFFORDABLE *housing*

CO-SPONSORED BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF JANESVILLE



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 6 P.M.

PROGRAM ROOM

Kelly Bedessem, City of Janesville Housing Services Director, will discuss the state of affordable housing in Janesville, what the City is doing to expand affordable housing options, and the resources available to help those seeking more affordable housing.

No registration necessary.



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Missed Anniversaries

2021 - 2022 SEASON



Beloit Janesville Symphony Orchestra Concerts

“Missed Anniversaries” is the theme of the Beloit Janesville Symphony Orchestra concerts in October. The BJSO will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Adoption of the 19th Amendment & Beethoven’s 250th Birthday with a special program honoring women composers and a performance of a Beethoven Symphony.

The Leagues of Women Voters in Janesville and

Beloit have been invited to provide program notes about the 19th Amendment and to set up a display at the concerts that will be held at the Janesville Performing Arts Center on Sat. October 23 at 7:30 pm, and at the Castle in Beloit on Sun. October 24, at 2:00 pm. I hope that many League members will be able to attend one of the concerts.

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Inc.

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2021 VIRTUAL ISSUES BRIEFING

Empowering the Wisconsin Vote!



October 30, 9:00 AM - Noon



Keynote Address on Election Systems Innovations

We're excited to announce that Sara Eskrich, Executive Director of Democracy Found, will deliver a keynote address on Final-Five Voting at the LWVWI's 2021 Virtual Issues Briefing. [Democracy Found](#) is a nonpartisan coalition of leaders committed to reinvigorating our democracy through an open, top-five primary and instant runoff general election (Final-Five Voting).

Please join us online on **Saturday morning, October 30th, 9AM-noon** to hear Sara's address and



participate in a choice of breakout rooms including sessions on Legal Strategy Regarding Voter Sup-

pression Laws, The Youth Vote, National Popular Vote, Messaging the Truth About Election Processes, LWVWI voter service plans for empowering voters in 2022, VOTE411, and a continuing conversation on diversity, equity and inclusion work at the local League level. Zoom registration for Issues Briefing will soon be available.

SARA ESKRICH is the Executive Director of Democracy Found. She previously served on the Madison Common Council and currently serves as a Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commissioner. Her career includes roles in the public and private sectors. Sara is a graduate of UW-Madison and holds a Masters of Public Affairs from the Robert M. La Follette School and Masters of Public Health from the School of Medicine and Public Health.

LWV





Take Action in Support of Fair Maps

The Legislature is accepting District maps from the public on their new [“Draw Your District” Portal](#). Submitting a District map now through October 15th informs the Legislature of communities that should not be split up as they consider the District and Senate boundaries to be used for the next 10 years in Wisconsin. The [portal](#) offers three map drawing software options with tutorials on how to successfully submit maps.

Now is also the time to contact your legislators to ask that they pass legislation to end gerrymandering in Wisconsin by preventing partisan data from influencing maps. Simply provide your address [here](#) to send an email to your Assemblyperson and Senator asking them to hold a public hearing and to consider the independently and transparently drawn maps of the People’s Maps Commission.

**END
GERRYMANDERING**

EVERY VOTE MUST COUNT



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.





The Board Of
Directors for 2021-22 is:

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Web addresses of National, State and Local Leagues:

To check out the action go to: **LWV-US**

<www.lwv.org>

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JANESVILLE LEAGUE

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