



Dear Friends in League,

I am writing this message one week before Election Day. League members have worked hard this election season to encourage citizens to become informed about the issues and candidates and to vote in this election. We have visited high school and college campuses to help newly eligible citizens register to vote. We have had information tables at numerous events all through the summer and fall.

**I want to express special appreciation to Lisa Johnson, our Voter Services Chair. Many of us did League work during this election season, but I think we are all in awe of the amount of time, thought and effort that Lisa put in to organize and be present for our Voter Services activities throughout the year. Thank you, Lisa.**

Our activities won't end with the elections. No matter the outcome of the elections, the League of Women Voters will have work to do to fulfill its mission: **"Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy."**

The members of our Observer Corps are beginning to attend meetings of local government committees and boards, to be "the eyes and ears of the League" and to share with us what they learn about the issues confronting our local government agencies, with special interest on matters that relate to local positions held by our League. At present, our Observer Corps is comprised of a dynamic mix of veteran and relatively new League members. You can learn a lot just by sitting in on their meetings. Contact Debby Griffith ([debragriffith052@gmail.com](mailto:debragriffith052@gmail.com)) for more information.

In even numbered years, the LWVWI holds its Issues Briefing in November so League members can take election results into account when they consider future actions. This theme of this year's Issues Briefing is **"Justice Matters: Can't Stop. Won't Stop."** The briefing will be in the format of three virtual sessions extending over three days, November 10-14. You can read more about the speakers and find links to register for the event elsewhere in this newsletter. (Register for the event even if you can't attend all the sessions. You will be notified when recordings become available.)

Linda



Saturday, February 11, 2023 is the date for the "Forward Together" Event of the Leagues of Women Voters of Beloit and of Janesville.

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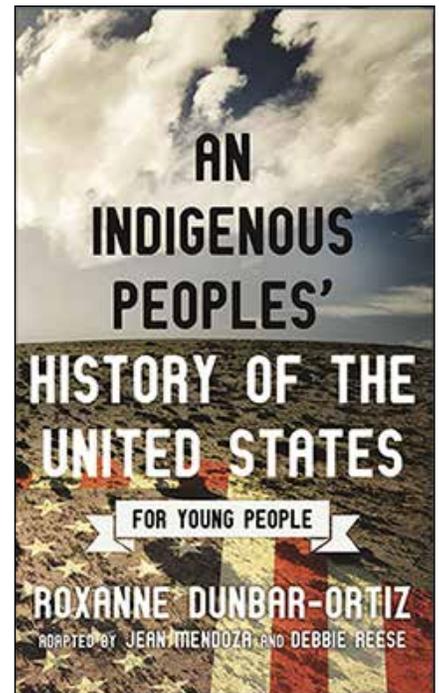
# Discussion of *Indigenous Peoples' History* set for Saturday, November 19

Join League members in a discussion of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar Ortiz.

This book discussion, originally scheduled for August, will be held on Saturday, November 19, during National Native American Heritage Month.

The group will meet in the Friends Community Room on the Lower Level of the Hedberg Public Library at 1:00 pm.

*This event is FREE and open to the public.*

The poster has a light beige background with a diagonal white line. In the top right corner, the LWV logo and 'LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WISCONSIN' are displayed. The main title 'EMPATHY ON PURPOSE' is in large, dark, serif capital letters. Below it, the subtitle 'A Look Into Implicit Bias + Microaggressions' is in a smaller, dark, sans-serif font. The event details 'LWVWI Virtual Statewide Training Thursday, November 17, 2022 | 6:30 - 8:00 PM' are centered. A paragraph of text on the left describes the event. At the bottom left, the presenter's name and title are listed. On the right side, there is a line-art illustration of two hands reaching towards each other.

**EMPATHY ON PURPOSE**

A Look Into Implicit Bias + Microaggressions

LWVWI Virtual Statewide Training  
Thursday, November 17, 2022 | 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Please join us for an evening of learning, gathering, and safe, guided discussion. This interactive event is self-reflective and the foundation for more studies to come. Please invite both League and non League members to join us in learning and growing as a community... together.

**Presented by:**  
Maria Douglas  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Senior  
Specialist

## Empathy on Purpose: A Look Into Implicit Bias + Microaggressions

**Thursday, November 17, 2022 - 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

Join the League for an evening of learning, gathering, and open, guided discussion. This interactive event is self-reflective and the foundation for more studies to come. Please invite both League and non League members to join us in learning and growing as a community together. LWVWI DEI Senior Specialist Maria Douglas will lead the discussion. This virtual event will take place on Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m. CT

# Observing a Rock County Board Meeting

**Debby Griffith**  
LWV-JV Observer Corps Chair

As part of the newly revised Observer Corps, I have had the pleasure of seeing the Rock County Board in action. This is an exceptionally good time of the year to be “the eyes and ears” of the League. It is budget time for most organizations and the Rock County Board of Supervisors Budget meeting lasted over 4 hours! Josh Smith, County Administrator, patiently explained the Recommended Budget for Year 2023, answering any questions that came forward from the Supervisors. This included Tax Levy information with breakdowns for Debt Service, Sales Tax, Capital Expenditures,

Construction Projects, Rock Haven, Public Safety initiatives, Department Budgets, Staffing and more—all things that will set our final tax rate. There will be a Public Hearing for the Budget on Wednesday, November 9 at 6 p.m. and the Statutory Annual Meeting and Budget Adoption is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15 at 6 p.m. Attending meetings as an Observer, especially a budget meeting, gives a great overall perspective of how our tax dollars are allocated and what priorities our elected officials feel are important. You can look at the Rock County Recommended 2023 Budget here: <https://www.co.rock.wi.us/departments/administration/budget-information>

## Great Idea from the Observer Corps for ALL League members

At the October meeting of the Observer Corps, LWV Life Member **Carolyn Brandeen** made a great suggestion that I thought I should share with ALL League members:



Contact the County Board Supervisor who represents YOUR district, and invite him/her for a cup of coffee. Find

out what issues are of particular interest to them, and let them know what you care about. Also, find out how best to contact them. Get their preferred email address and phone number.

If you hesitate to do this on your own, we may be able to help you find a League buddy who lives in your Supervisory District. Email [Janesvillelww@gmail.com](mailto:Janesvillelww@gmail.com) if you need assistance.

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, work style, 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.



Linda Reinhardt photo

## **Thank you Wisconsin Election Officials**

Photo above: Legislative Citation presented to the LWV of Janesville, poll and election workers, and to Janesville City Clerk-Treasurer Lori Stottler to commend their work and thank them for their contributions to Rock County and our democracy. The citation was signed by State Representatives Sue Conley and Mark Spreitzer, and State Senator Janis Ringhand; it was presented on October 6, 2022.

Photo right: Lori Stottler (left) and Lisa Tollefson (right) were some of the local officials thanked at our event.





## ***Voter Registration!***

The Voter Service Committee has been busy this fall, between the Farmer's Market and performing voter registration at Parker High School this fall.

## **League of Women Voters of Wisconsin, Inc.**

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(608) 256-0827

[lwwisconsin@lwwwi.org](mailto:lwwisconsin@lwwwi.org)





## Trick or Treat!

Reaching out to voters at the Janesville Farmer's Market.



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



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



**POLL WORKERS ARE CIVIC SUPERHEROES.**



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



# Voter Services Report – November 6, 2022

**Thank**  
**You!**

Lisa Johnson  
Voter Services Chair

**LWW**



We are two short days away from what will possibly be an historic mid-term election! The stakes could not be higher! At a local level, we hope we may have made a difference with assisting voters in the election process.

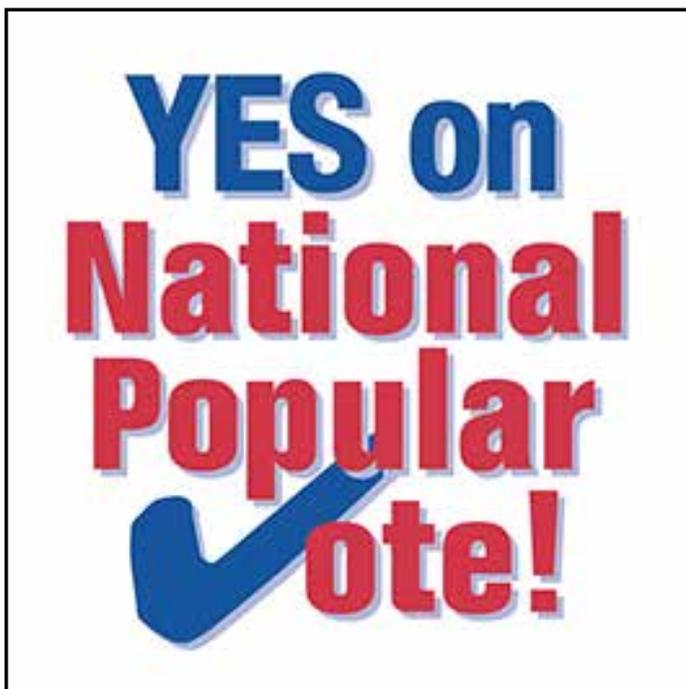
As Voter Services Chair, I wish to express my sincere gratitude for everyone's volunteering and showing support and dedication to the Voter Services events during our 2022 Election Season!

We have talked to hundreds and hundreds of people....through this election season!

It is my pleasure to work with everyone! There has been a mix of "veteran" members as well as new members in all of our events and activities! It has been a wonderful experience and I hope everyone has had some fun getting to know other league members! Your willingness to dedicate your time is greatly appreciated and I look forward to working with you all in the future!

## Next Level Community Visibility

When I look back at our events, I am so **very grateful** for



the support of our members, for community resources and all of the voter education materials furnished by the League of Women Voters--- which together, **make our Voter Services work possible!** It is so rewarding to receive words of appreciation from the public for the League's work in the community!

Briefly, we attended many many community events providing Voter Education materials and information. We co-sponsored the Rock County Sheriff's Forum, held the Election Officials Appreciation Event at City Hall, and we attended Janesville Farmers Markets from mid-September through November 5, just to name a few!

Special note - I would like to thank the creative and hard-working team that successfully coordinates the Janesville Farmers Market throughout the summer, fall and winter! They have provided an excellent location for our Voter Services table and were so supportive of the League!

I am also so grateful for the support of the City of Janesville Clerk's Office, Rock County Clerk's Office, Hedberg Library and JATV for their professional services and support of all of our Voter Services activities.

Special mention and appreciation to the City of Janesville for allowing us to host the Election Official Appreciation Event at City Hall and JATV's broadcast of our various events throughout this election season.

We have been so fortunate to have a substantial supply of professional materials and "voter swag" to share which were so instrumental in engaging with the public ---at the events! These materials are professionally prepared, with credible information - straight forward and great conversation starters ---everywhere!

Good news - we have a substantial "inventory" and with a very few exceptions, they can be used in future elections. Also, our addition of a table/canopy/table cloth etc. has added another consistent, recognizable "branding" to the League, at these events!

Vote411.org---Our league's voluntary participation in Vote411.org has proven to be a positive addition to our leagues

# \* Voter Service

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voter services! Vote411.org pens and state level candidate booklets **were a hit!** Local race information is available on line! What a great way to share non-partisan information on the candidates to EVERYONE!

We also had a “doorhanger project” for the primary and November election. We had strategic voting wards in Janesville for both elections to deliver the hangers that served as another reminder of dates and where to get information on voting! Thank you to the teams who volunteered and their willingness to participate!

## Youth Engagement Initiative In the Democratic Process

In an effort to attract and promote youth engagement---Voter Services continues to make excellent progress in partnerships with the local high schools including charter schools and to be present and visible in our schools and various youth organizations!

We were in the schools to emphasize the importance of voting, how to register and where to vote as well as a pathway for students to be civically-engaged now and in the future!

We offered league membership scholarships and internships with student government groups at each of the schools.

The good news – this is only the beginning. We were invited and will be returning in December and January and throughout the next semester to reach the newly eligible voters with the “how to register electronically” and opportunities for them to be engaged in the elec-

tion process as poll workers, volunteers for Voter Services etc. or League members.

We provided voter registration materials and assistance at Craig High School, Parker High School, Milton High School, Rock River Charter School, Rock University High School, and University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at Rock County. (The Beloit League of Women Voters covers Blackhawk Technical College)

All of the schools’ faculty were welcoming and the students we worked with were engaged. We have made great progress in strengthening our relationships and youth/school connections!

## Final Thank You!

Last but not least, I would like to thank ***all of the election officials*** who continue to dedicate their time in the planning and execution of our election on November 8!

Because of their commitment ---- *many are Janesville League of Women members* ---- we have a free and fair election!

I personally am so thankful to be a resident of Wisconsin, Rock County and the City of Janesville. We have a “Blue Ribbon” election team!

Thank you to members of the League who participate in directly in this process!

## Special Note:

**Next Voter Services meeting---changed Tuesday November 15 6:30 via Zoom.** Because we have many members that will be working at the polls that day, the date was changed!

Thank you!



## The Board Of Directors for 2022-23 are:

President—Linda Reinhardt

VP—Susan Johnson

Secretary—Renee Kalvestrand

Treasurer—Sabrina Siker Bowerman

Directors: Deb Griffith, Lisa Johnson, Heide Keith, Sue Scott and Rich Harper



## “Justice Matters: Can’t Stop, Won’t Stop” is theme of LWVWI Virtual Issues Forum

Thursday, November 10, 2022 - 6:00pm to Monday, November 14, 2022 - 7:30pm

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT » <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin>

League members and friends are invited to attend LWVWI's 2022 Virtual Issues Briefing comprising a series of three programs presented on three different days. Please join us as we explore principles of justice in financing our elections, fighting for equal rights for women and protecting our environment. Learn why we can't and won't stop advocating for governmental, social and environmental justice issues until everyone is treated equally, fairly and with the human dignity we all deserve.

Dates and topics for the virtual programs are:

Thursday, November 10, 6 - 7:30 PM, *The Problem of Money & Politics in Our Elections, and How to Solve It*, **Matt Rothschild**, Executive Director, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign

Saturday, November 12, 9 - 10:30 AM, *Assault on Women's Rights*, **Elisabeth Griffith**, women's rights activist, academic and author of [Formidable](#); American Women and the Fight for Equality, 1920-2020

Monday, November 14, 6 - 7:30 PM, *PFAS: Our Love-Hate Relationship & Its Impact on All of Us*, **Meleesa Johnson**, Director of Solid Waste Management, Marathon Co.

## Web addresses of National, State and Local Leagues:

To check out the action go to: LWV-US <[www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)>

LWV-WI <[my.lwv.org/wisconsin](https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin)>

JANESVILLE LEAGUE <[www.lwvjvl.org](http://www.lwvjvl.org)>