



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE, September 17, 2023

P.O. Box 306, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

[lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org)

[LWV DC Facebook page](#)

[LWV DC website](#)

### Note These Important Dates!

**Sept. 19: National Voter Registration Day,  
ADRC, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM**

**Sept. 27: NAMI 101, JAK's Place, 5:30-7:00 PM**

**Oct. 2: Legislative Town Hall, 6:30-8:00 PM**

**Oct. 24, Oct. 26, Nov. 1: Community Book Club  
Events**

**Oct. 4, 13, 17: ADRC & LWV workshops**

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## Message from the Chair

### **The Door County League is in transition? What does that mean?**

For too long, most people's mental image of the League of Women Voters has been several white-haired ladies sitting at a table helping people register to vote. We are so much more than that.

Transition means CHANGE! And that is what we have been doing.

Those voter registration tables and, yes, the white-haired ladies are still around (I'm one of them). And tables with voter registration information are still important and active. But in 2023, the League is breaking new ground, forging new trails, charting new paths – pick your metaphor.

### **This change means...**

- Adopting and learning new technology like working with Google Drive, hybrid and virtual meetings, streaming programs, etc.
- Building and implementing coalitions like the one with Peninsula Pulse to expand community knowledge of local government (see Observer Corps article) and another with Door County Knock to encourage vital community conversations on issues.
- Expanding outreach including use of social media with the assistance of a talented new student member. (See article on Yana's recent honor.)
- "Thinking outside the box" in creating new types of programs for membership and community. (See article on LWV of Dane County's September program.)
- Revising our leadership structure to adapt to changing needs and demographics.

### **BUT...**

Just in case you worry that the League will no longer be the organization you chose when you joined, do not fear.

We are still nonpartisan, grassroots, and dedicated to promoting active participation in government by all citizens.

We are just working very hard to adjust, so that we can be more effective, more relevant, more efficient, and more responsive to today's world.

-Susie

## A Voice in My Ear – Gwen Runkle

Gwen was one of the long-time Door County League members I had the privilege to know as a new Leaguer in the '80s. Quite elderly at the time (at least that's how she seemed to me), tiny, and white-haired, Gwen never missed a League event or activity. At one meeting with few attendees (for which Gwen was not involved in the organization and presentation of the program but rather in the audience), I asked about her faithfulness in attending meetings. She answered that she knew how much effort the presenters would have put into their preparation, and she wanted to support and respect that.

I have thought of Gwen many times while I debated whether I really wanted to make the effort to attend that day or evening's particular activity, and she probably wouldn't have approved of some of the decisions I made.

*We've all been there – no guilt – just food for thought.*

-Susie

## NAMI 101: Becoming a Local NAMI Affiliate



*Stacey Mohr-Johannsen*

Members of the public interested in supporting individuals and families living with mental illness are invited to a presentation by Stacey Mohr-Johannsen, associate director at [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\) Wisconsin](#), Wednesday, September 27, 5:30-7 PM., at [JAK's Place](#), 1623 Rhode Island Street, Sturgeon Bay.

Mohr-Johannsen will explain how local NAMI chapters provide support by raising awareness and offering resources and education. She will also outline the process for creating a local chapter.

The importance of having a local NAMI chapter, according to Sturgeon Bay Council and [League of Women Voters of Door County](#) member Seth Wiederanders, a certified peer specialist, is that “an affiliate chapter provides education and information to friends and family that need support in real time.” He added, “The 2020s have seen a huge uptick in the need for mental health services. We are now at the crisis level. A new effort with new volunteers is essential and achievable. Let's bring NAMI back to Door County.”

[NAMI](#) is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. Through its state organizations and local affiliates, NAMI works in communities to raise awareness and provide support and education.

The September 27 presentation is being organized by the education committee of LWVDC's Mental Health/Substance Use Project. Having begun work in 2017, the project issued the report, [Door County Community's Responses to Mental Health and Substance Use Issues](#) in 2020. Contact [Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org) with questions. (See the attached flyer at the bottom of the newsletter!)

## Legislative Town Hall

The LWV Appleton/Fox Cities Legislative Town Hall will be Monday, October 2 from 6:30-8:00 PM. All the area legislators (including Senator Jacque) have been notified. The event will be virtual and online, and is co-sponsored by the Leagues of Winnebago, Greater Green Bay, and Door County. **Stay tuned for more information and the virtual invitation.**

## Community Book Club: How to Deal with Angry People

Has there been a timelier topic? Learn some strategies from "The Anger Professor" on dealing with angry people.

Pick up a free copy of *How to Deal with Angry People* written by University of Wisconsin-Green Bay professor Dr. Ryan Martin. Copies are available while supplies last at libraries in Forestville, Sturgeon Bay, Fish Creek, Sister Bay, or United Way of Door County..

Participate in any or all of the following events:

- Tuesday, October 24, 5:00-6:00 PM, book discussion with Dr. Martin joining via Zoom, Sister Bay Library
- Thursday, October 26, 5:00-6:00 PM, book discussion with Dr. Martin in person, Sturgeon Bay Library
- Wednesday, November 1, 5:00-6:00 PM, in-person presentation by Dr. Ryan Martin, Sturgeon Bay Library

*(See flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information.)*

## LWV of Dane County Presents:

### State Supreme Court Fair Maps Case – a Do-It-Yourself Educational Opportunity

We are sharing an interesting new type of program on a subject we are all interested in. The Dane County League has put together information about the fair maps case pending before the State Supreme Court, including a video press conference, and is encouraging their members to learn about the case on their own time. They have also developed resource materials and discussion questions for use by their discussion units and any members who want to learn more. (Door County does not have discussion units set up at this time, but if this is of interest, contact us at [Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org).)

To try this new approach, either use the pdf attached at the end of this newsletter or go to the Dane County link containing their September program information: <https://www.lwvdanecounty.org/>

If you try this, please let us know what you think. Is this something Door County should pursue as a strategy? What suggestions do you have? Would you be willing to help develop such programs? Contact [Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org).

## Congratulations to Student Member Yana Zenefski!



One of the Door County League's newest members has been chosen to serve on the inaugural National YMCA Youth Advisory Council. Yana, a senior at Southern Door High School, was introduced to League at the May Annual Meeting when she, fellow students, and adult leaders from the Y's Youth in Government Program explained their project, which earned the LWV of DC's first ever **Making Democracy Work Award**.

Yana credits the YIG as the inspiration to seek the council membership. This 16-youth council will advise and support the Y-USA Executive Team and National Board that oversees 2,600 YMCA's across the country. Their strategy looks to recognize more young people as active contributors to strategic decision-making for emerging issues and programs on a local and global scale.

Yana is working with the Door County League as they act to implement effective and appropriate social media. She is first on the left in the picture of the Youth in Government Program presentation at May's Annual Meeting.

## Workshops Hosted by LWVCD & ADRC to Glean Input from Door County Seniors



Door County seniors are invited to help identify and discuss issues of concern to them at one of three workshops hosted throughout the county by the League of Women Voters of Door County and the [Aging and Disability Resource Center of Door County](#).

The collaboration with ADRC puts an effective workshop facilitation process used by our League chapter to work for Door County seniors. The *Lively Issues For Door County Seniors* workshops will start at 12:30 p.m. and coincide with the [ADRC dine-in meal program](#) as follows:

- **Sturgeon Bay, October 4** - Door County Community Center, 916 N. 14th Avenue
- **Baileys Harbor, October 13** – Town Hall Building, 2392 County Road F
- **Southern Door, October 17** - Brussels Community Center, 1366 Junction Road

Workshops will be conducted using a nominative group process to encourage everyone to contribute and facilitate quick consensus around the most important issues.

Top issues to emerge from the workshops will help inform future advocacy efforts by ADRC's Unit on Aging and possible topics for further study, education, or action by the LWVDC.

Seniors need not participate in the ADRC meal program to attend a workshop.

## Door County In-Person Water Rangers Training

Join Friends of the Forestville Dam (FOFD) and the SRAP Water Rangers team on Saturday, October 7, 2023, in Door County, Wisconsin, for a FREE in-person training on water quality monitoring. You'll learn how to collect and analyze water samples for industrial livestock pollution levels and more. More details will be provided after registration. Lunch provided! <https://sraproject.org/water-rangers/>

## Observer Corps/Action Update

### Recruitment Update:

Our committee would like to extend a "hearty" welcome to the 30 members who have volunteered to become part of this important work.

### Programs:

Observer Corp would like to extend a "hand of applause" to Debra Fitzgerald, editor of *The Peninsula Pulse*, for her tutorial on becoming a "good beat observer." The event was well attended by 20 observers. For those of you who were unable to attend, here are a few of the takeaways:

- Introduce yourself to clerks and elected officials.
- Listen for the topic and track what is being said.
- Identify the arguments for and against the issue.
- Record the vote.
- Do not use quotes.
- Distill observations into a few factual sentences.
- Document in the Check-in-Form ASAP while information is fresh.

The Check-in-Form can be found by going to [lwvdoorcounty.org](http://lwvdoorcounty.org), clicking on "About" in the top navigation and going to "Action & Advocacy" in the dropdown. This will bring you to the [Observer Corps web page](#) and a host of resources to make observing easier.

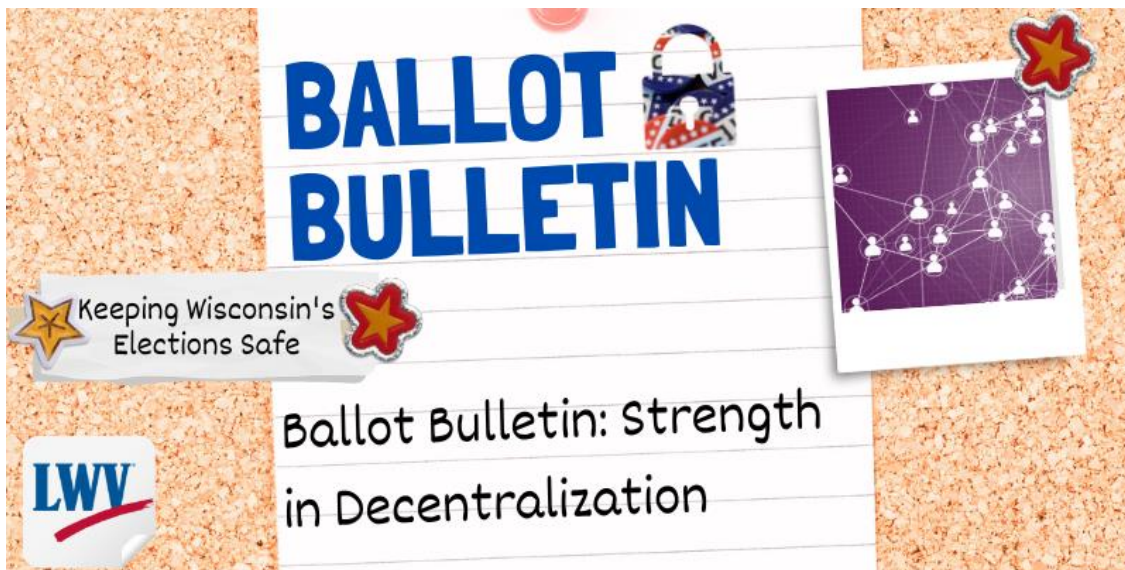
### Coming Up:

Observations will be reviewed by OC/Action co-chairs.

Actionable issues will be acted upon per our policy.  
At the end of each month, identifiable League issues will be extracted  
Look for a column in the *Peninsula Pulse* entitled "League Lens."

An Observer Corps/Action group email will be forthcoming. However, if you have questions or wish to join us, please email [ocaction@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:ocaction@lwvdoorcounty.org).

## From LWVWI State Office Bi-Weekly Update: September 2, 2023



### **Ballot Bulletin: Strength in Decentralization**

This summer, LWVWI launched an educational series highlighting various election security topics so we are all better informed about the processes in place to ensure our elections are fair, accessible, and secure. This week, let's look at Wisconsin's unique system of administering elections at the local level and the strengths of a decentralized system.

What does it mean to have a decentralized election administration system? It might sound complicated, but it just means that the decision-making power of our elections is spread throughout local areas of the state.

While the Wisconsin Elections Commission is the state agency responsible for overseeing our elections, local municipal clerks in our communities hold the vast majority of power and influence over how elections are run. There are local clerks based in more than 1,850 municipalities in Wisconsin.

This system is different from other states. But our decentralized model has many benefits for Wisconsin voters. Our decentralized model allows local election officials to tailor their election procedures to their community's specific needs, promoting efficiency and adaptability.

The WEC supports these local clerks by providing non-binding guidance, training, and help interpreting our election laws. However, it is up to local clerks to make critical decisions and do the work to run our elections.

The decentralized system also acts as a robust defense against potential threats or interference in our elections. By distributing responsibilities across multiple communities, the impact of any manipulation would be limited, making it very challenging for bad actors to disrupt the entire electoral process.

Decentralized administration also enhances transparency and accountability, two things we love in our elections. Local clerks, who are often known within their communities, are directly accountable to the voters and communities they serve. This fosters trust and ensures that election practices remain accountable and in line with the needs and expectations of voters.

## Welcome New Member, Cori McFarlane

*In this section, new members will introduce themselves. We want to get to know you! If you haven't sent us your short bio, please do.*



**Cori McFarlane** retired in January from the Door County Department of Health and Human Services, where she served as Deputy Director for the past eight years. Prior to coming to Door County, she spent 18+ years as a regional administrator for various state agencies, including the Dept. of Health Services and Dept. of Children and Families.

She is currently working part-time as a Project Coordinator for the Behavioral Health Training Partnership at UW-Green Bay. Cori and her husband Scott live in Sturgeon Bay and have two adult children and four grandchildren.



## Website & Member Dues

Get involved, engage with our community, and make a local impact! **We invite our LWVDC Friends** to join us by completing our [Membership Form](#) and paying dues. **Current LWVDC Members**, if you have not already, please complete our [Membership Form](#) at this time. Thank you! If you have questions about your dues contact: [memberadmin@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:memberadmin@lwvdoorcounty.org)

If you haven't explored our website recently, check it out! <https://www.lwvdoorcounty.org/>

**Donate** - Note the dropdown for type of donation (Membership, Membership + Additional Donation, General Donation) and also the box you can check to help us cover credit card processing fees.

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DOOR COUNTY

Donate to  
**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DOOR COUNTY**

We are a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan organization of women & men that encourages informed and active participation in government.

\$75 USD   **\$110 USD**   \$150 USD   Other

Use this donation for  
Membership

Add \$2.73 to help cover the fees.

Make this a monthly donation

**Donate with PayPal**

Donate with Debit or Credit Card

We are continuing to add information to our website. One page in progress is **Volunteer Opportunities** under the Our Work navigation link

<https://www.lwvdoorcounty.org/volunteer-opportunities>.

Stay tuned for more ways to get involved!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to: [tech@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:tech@lwvdoorcounty.org)

## Communicate with Your Representatives!

*Tip: Post the updated attached list on your refrigerator to have it handy!*

### **PRESIDENT**

Joseph Biden

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/executive-office-of-the-president/>

### **U.S. SENATORS**

- Ron Johnson [www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public](http://www.ronjohnson.senate.gov/public); (202) 224-5323; Madison office: (608) 240-9629; [ron\\_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov](mailto:ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov)
- Tammy Baldwin [www.baldwin.senate.gov](http://www.baldwin.senate.gov); (202) 224-5653; 1 (800) 247-5645; Madison office: (608) 264-5338

### **U.S. CONGRESSMAN (8<sup>th</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)**

Mike Gallagher <http://gallagher.house.gov/>; (202) 225-5665; Green Bay office: (920) 301-4500

### **WISCONSIN GOVERNOR**

Tony Evers [govinfo@wisconsin.gov](mailto:govinfo@wisconsin.gov); (608) 266-1212

### **WI SENATOR (DISTRICT 1)**

Andre Jacque [Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov); (608)266-3512

### **WI ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 1)**

Joel Kitchens [Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov); (608) 266-5350 or (888) 482-0001

**Legislative Hotline 1 (800) 362-9472**

## 2023-2024 Official County Directories

One complimentary copy of the 2023-2024 Official Directory of Door County (**a listing of contact information for county, city, village, and town officials**) can be picked up at the County Clerk's office at the Door County government building. Additional directories are available for \$4 each.

This directory is also online at the Door County government website:

[https://www.co.door.wi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/967/Official-County-Directory--2023-2024?bidId=.](https://www.co.door.wi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/967/Official-County-Directory--2023-2024?bidId=)

**If you would like the directory mailed, please submit \$6.00 each. Remit to: Door County Clerk 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235**



# NAMI 101: Becoming a Local NAMI Affiliate

Join the League of Women Voters of Door County Education Committee in a presentation on who is NAMI, support, services and resources available in Wisconsin, and how to start the process of becoming a local NAMI affiliate in your community.

**When:** Wednesday,  
September 27  
5:30-7:00 PM

**Where:** JAKs Place  
1623 Rhode Island Street  
Sturgeon Bay

**Questions? Contact:**  
[lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org](mailto:lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org)



## About the Presenter

Stacey Mohr-Johannsen is the Associate Director at NAMI Wisconsin, the state chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Stacey has a background in nonprofit leadership and consultation, program development, event planning, volunteer management, fundraising, strategic planning and workplace wellness initiatives. She enjoys creatively helping others while developing and expanding community-based programs, implementing knowledge, change, and overall improving the quality of life for all. She believes that mental health is just as important as physical health and works to support the state of Wisconsin to improve the quality of life of those affected by mental illness, promote and provide recovery, and end the stigma.

2023

# Community Book Club

## HOW TO DEAL WITH ANGRY PEOPLE

by Dr. Ryan Martin

**⚡ THE ANGER PROFESSOR ⚡**

Dr. Martin offers 10 highly effective, research-based strategies for coping with the anger you have to face, whether at home, at work, on the street, or online.



Dr. Ryan Martin

✂ THE ANGER PROFESSOR ✂

# HOW TO DEAL WITH ANGRY PEOPLE

10 Strategies for Facing Anger at Home, at Work and in the Street



Pick up your **FREE** copy starting September 1 at these locations: Forestville Library, Sturgeon Bay Library, Fish Creek Library, Sister Bay Library, or United Way of Door County, while supplies last. Please read the book, pass it along to a friend or family member & join us at these events!

### Free Community Events

**Tuesday, October 24 • 5-6 pm**  
Book Discussion with Dr. Martin  
Sister Bay Library via Zoom

**Thursday, October 26 • 5-6 pm**  
Book Discussion with Dr. Martin  
Sturgeon Bay Library

**Wednesday, November 1 • 5-6 pm**  
Presentation by Dr. Ryan Martin  
Sturgeon Bay Library

PRESENTED BY:



WITH SUPPORT FROM THESE AWESOME COMMUNITY PARTNERS:





# Walk With Me

Domestic Violence Awareness Walk



**Join HELP of Door County at 4pm  
Wednesday, October 4, 2023, as we walk for  
Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**

The walk begins at Martin Park, goes across the Oregon Street Bridge, then back to the park via the historic Steel Bridge.

**Special Guests: Musician Cathy Grier and Author Joseph Lopez**

Bring your family, friends, and pets.

**Purple Attire and Signs Encouraged**

Sign Making  
Station and  
Coloring Area

Pet Station  
Sponsored by  
Coastal Canines

Martin Park

207 S 3rd Ave, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

For more information call HELP of Door County at 920.743.8785

CELEBRATE WITH US!

# The World We Make

a special event marking 10 years of  
climate change education  
and action in Door County

WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 20  
4:30 TO 8:30 PM

About Thyme Farm  
8425 County Highway F  
Baileys Harbor, WI 54202



Featuring special guest  
and presenter,  
**Dr. Jo Handelsman**  
Director, Wisconsin Institute  
for Discovery and former White  
House Science Advisor



"The Earth beneath  
Our Feet:  
Climate Change and  
the Soil Loss Crisis"

## Join us!

for an evening of  
conversation, dinner  
by Thyme Restaurant  
and Catering, music  
by Colin Welford,  
presentation, and  
Q&A

## TICKETS

\$40 per person

Space is limited, so early  
reservations are advised.

purchase online  
on our website or  
scan the code below

**SPECIAL THANKS**  
*to our major supporters*  
Synergy Heating & Cooling  
Gwenn and Joseph Graboyes



**CLIMATE CHANGE  
COALITION**  
OF DOOR COUNTY

[climatechangedoorcounty.com](http://climatechangedoorcounty.com)