



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE, November 14, 2023

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

lwvdc@lwvdoorcounty.org

[LWV DC Facebook page](#)

[LWV DC website](#)

Note these important dates:

Nov 18: "What You Always Wanted to Know About Voting/Elections in Door County," Kress Pavilion, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Third Thursdays: Voter Registration at ARDC, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

Dec 14: December Roundtable Event, The Log Den, 5:30 PM-7:00 PM

In this update:

- Message from the Chair
- What does the League do to affect state government?
- Presentation: "Everything to know About elections in Door County"
- Get involved this election cycle
- League seeks to drive public engagement In Door County: Comprehensive Plan Update
- December Roundtable Event
- Welcome new members
- Website
- Communicate with your representatives
- 2023-2024 official county directories
- Lively Issues: save the date!
- Coming Up For Air: free movie showing

Message from the Chair

We are launched!

It's true! The first "League Lens" column in the *Peninsula Pulse* was published and arrived in mailboxes and public venues on Friday, October 20.

The year-long preparation for this collaboration between the reorganized League Observer Corps and *The Pulse* has borne fruit in the form of a monthly column that features actions at local government meetings which are of interest to the LWV of Door County. Just in case you missed it, [check out this link](#).

- The League is grateful to *Pulse* Editor Debra Fitzgerald for offering this opportunity. She explains her reasoning in an introduction to our first published column.
- We are also grateful to you – the approximately 30 members of our organization who have shown an interest in the project and helped move it forward in various ways.
- Almost 30 members have begun monitoring various local bodies and their committees and, when appropriate, are reporting on actions taken.
- A handful of League leaders spent many hours crafting the policies and procedures that will guide our implementation.
- Most importantly, Observer Corps/Action Co-Coordinator Renee Fiedler and Ann Smejkal have overseen and implemented those guidelines.
- Thank you, all!

Some of the benefits of this project are obvious:

- League becomes more visible to the community, helping it understand our mission and attracting like-minded members.
- Members expand their understanding of local government, local officials, and what they do, informing and improving our educational programs, advocacy efforts, and influence.

Other benefits are more subtle and nuanced. During my 10 years on the County Board, I concluded that local government is the one level that "still works." By that I mean it is not involved in partisan wrangling, it is able to balance its budgets and conduct its business in a relatively orderly and timely way, and it is able to be quite available and open to public opinion and scrutiny. It is a level in which an individual citizen can really make a difference. As a result, it is much more satisfying at a time when there is little about the state and national government that isn't frustrating. Helping the public better understand this area of government and its positive aspects is important and something this project can accomplish.

If you are not already involved, please consider joining us in expanding our outreach. Door County has 25 local bodies of government: 14 town boards, 4 village boards, 1 city council, 1 county board, and 5 school boards. And all of them have committees! Contact ocaction@lwvdoorcounty.org to find out more.

-Susie

What does the League do to affect state government?

The Legislative Committee of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin (LWVWI) directly reacts to Wisconsin legislation on the League's behalf. It is composed of members from around the state (including your chair) who work together to analyze legislation and agency rules as they are introduced in the state legislature and recommend action to promote the League's policy goals. Legislative Committee actions can include:

- Registering in support or opposition of a bill
- Helping to develop [advocacy toolkits](#) on bills
- Sending action alerts to League members
- Testifying at legislative hearings
- All legislative action is justified by the League's [policy positions](#) that have been adopted by membership – some of which have been around for several decades.

The LWV WI Legislative Committee understands that many of its members all around the state want information and guidance on the bills being debated in Madison. As a result, they have begun offering a new service:

- Once or twice a month, the LWV WI will send out an email explaining the actions taken and resources developed by the Legislative Committee during recent weeks. This includes any statements drafted on legislation and a list of all legislation scrutinized and acted on.
- If you have questions about this new service, contact Anastasia Soluna asoluna@lwvwi.org or Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org.
- In order to sign up for this email, use this link: <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/legislative-action#email-signup>

County Clerk to speak on 'Everything to know about elections in Door County'

The League of Women Voters of Door County invites you to a presentation and question/answer session by Door County Clerk Jill Lau on **"What you always wanted to know about voting/elections in Door County."** The session will be **Saturday, November 18, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM at the Kress Pavilion in Egg Harbor**. Jill has served as a clerk in Door County for 22 years and is currently the County Clerk and interim Clerk of Nasewaupée.

She will discuss election administration—including preparation, printing, and the distribution of ballots and supplies to municipal clerks; management of voting equipment, security, and measures to ensure the accuracy of tabulations; the statewide voter registration system (WisVote); and recent changes in laws and regulations.

In addition, Jill will discuss and field questions about her activities involving charges of election improprieties that have been brought against Door County and several other Wisconsin counties.

Get involved this election cycle

We are scheduling voter registration assist events for 2024. The more volunteers we have, the more events we'll be able to schedule. We want to make sure that anyone in the county who wants to vote will be able to.

We will be at ADRC every month on the third Thursday between 11:30 AM and 1:00 PM. We are looking for volunteers like you to assist!

We are also finalizing plans to begin in January at NWTC in Sister Bay.

If you prefer weekends or have a venue or day preference, let us know and we will work with you. There are options available pending staffing.

Email Kathi Braswell, Voter Services Coordinator, at kathleen.braswell@lwvdoorcounty.org or phone/text at 773-401-2589

League seeks to drive public engagement In Door County: Comprehensive Plan update

Much of the League's work centers on helping to ensure that citizens are aware of decisions that impact their lives. An opportunity now exists for us to help drive public participation in an important *blueprint* that will shape the future of Door County.

The [Door County Comprehensive and Farmland Preservation Plan](#) is currently being updated. The comprehensive plan offers guidance to local governments, elected officials, citizens, and organizations for creating sustainable, resilient and vibrant communities. The plan affects housing, transportation, land use, agricultural, natural, and cultural resources and much more.

The best comprehensive plans are those that have broad community input, yet getting the public to engage in the process of developing comprehensive plans is often a challenge. Gaining public input on the plan is mandated by the [State of Wisconsin](#), and the county has outlined a "public participation" process. The public input timeline for Door County runs through 2024.

Now is the time for our League chapter to decide how we might help raise awareness of this important feature of participatory government and ensure citizens' voices are heard.

Contact the [Program Chair](#) if you are interested in working on this effort.

Celebrate the holiday season at the December 14th Roundtable!

Join us at our December Roundtable event on Thursday, December 14, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at The Log Den in Egg Harbor. We welcome anyone interested in the League.

During the holiday season, it is time to relax and appreciate what the LWV of Door County has accomplished in 2023. We will gather, order drinks, enjoy hors d'oeuvres and each other's company, and toast the holidays and new year. The topic of the evening is to relax and savor our time together as we reflect on what turned out to be a very busy 2023!

Cost is \$30 per person with a cash bar. **Please RSVP by Thursday, December 7th** and pay at this link: [Round Table RSVP](#). For questions contact susan.kohout@lwvdoorcounty.org.

Welcome new members, Anni Lampert and Michelle Durlinger

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.



From Anni Lampert: Politics and activism have been an important part of my life since the early 60's. My mom was an enthusiastic volunteer for a friend running for Congress. How could you NOT want to support a guy named Max Wildman? Apparently, plenty – he lost.

But hanging around campaign headquarters exposed me to smart people talking about important things. As an impressionable 8-year-old, their passion seeped into me. Getting a ride on an elephant led by Senator Everett Dirksen at a picnic event sealed the deal. I was star struck – such a nice old guy.

My party affiliation changed in the 70's, but my interest in the machinations of politics remained.

The League's work supports my strong belief that an informed electorate is crucial to sane and sensible government.

I'm proud to be a part of the League's work.



From Michelle Durlinger: I am originally from St. Joseph, Michigan, but left for college and only recently found my way back to the Great Lakes and the Midwest after living in Alabama, San Diego, and most recently New Mexico.

My significant other and I have lived just south of Carlsville for about three years. My daughter graduated from Sevastopol and is now a sophomore at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan. I am a wildlife/conservation biologist for the federal government. My job is based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but I work remotely from home.

Outside of work, I am an avid open water and pool swimmer and cyclist. I am passionate about the environment and a variety of social issues. I was interested in joining LWV Door County because I believe it is important to be informed about local and national issues and to ensure that all members of a community have access to resources that allow them to make informed decisions and to have their voices heard within their community.

Website

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

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; (202) 224-5323; Madison office: (608) 240-9629; ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov
- Tammy Baldwin www.baldwin.senate.gov; (202) 224-5653; 1 (800) 247-5645; Madison office: (608) 264-5338

U.S. CONGRESSMAN (8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

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

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR

Tony Evers govinfo@wisconsin.gov; (608) 266-1212

WI SENATOR (DISTRICT 1)

Andre Jacque Sen.Jacque@legis.wisconsin.gov; (608)266-3512

WI ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVE (DISTRICT 1)

Joel Kitchens 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



2024

LIVELY ISSUES

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 25 | 4:30 TO 6:30 PM
WRTIE ON, DOOR COUNTY | FISH CREEK

LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF DOOR COUNTY

COMING UP FOR AIR

**THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 16TH**

**CROSSROADS AT
BIG CREEK**

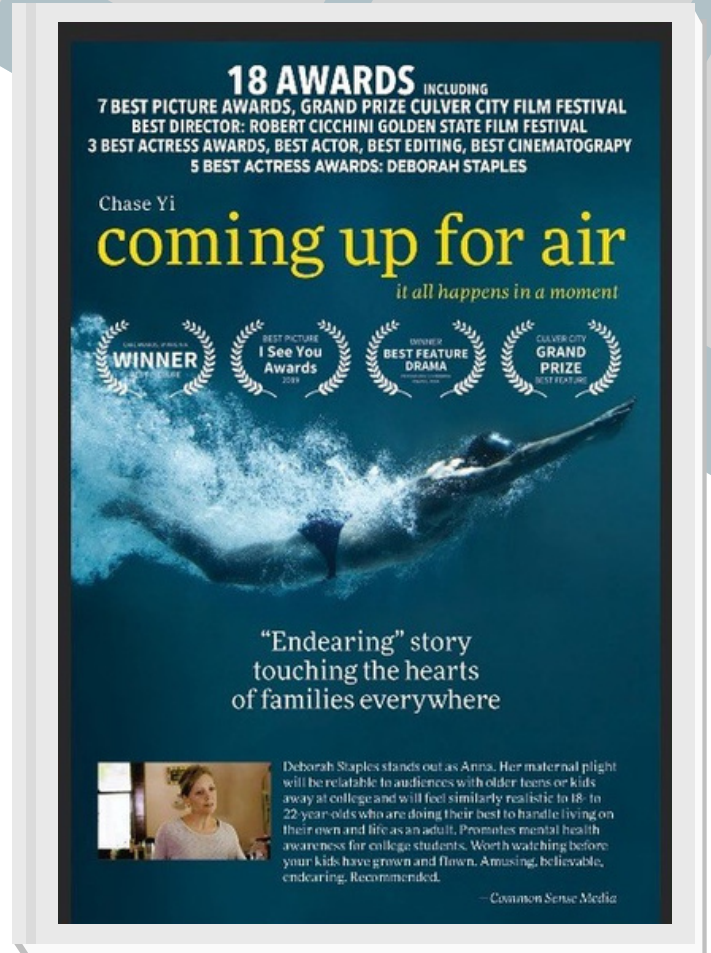
FREE MOVIE SHOWING

**4:30-5:00 PM: DINNER &
SOCIAL**

5:00 PM: MOVIE BEGINS

7:00-7:30 PM: DISCUSSION

This movie is 2 hours in length and will begin promptly at 5:00 pm.



Join us for an exciting opportunity to view the award winning movie, **Coming Up for Air**. Coming Up For Air is a story of a single mom whose college aged son unexpectedly starts suffering a mental illness. This film will create an appreciation of the impact mental health has on families. After the viewing, stay for discussion by local advocates for mental health. This event is open to the public.

Additional Information or Questions:

Cami Peggat at (920) 421-2177 or
cami@unitedwaydc.com

RSVP is encouraged • Email, call or text to RSVP



This film discusses mature topics such as mental illness, suicide ideation, and homelessness. May be unsuitable for children under 17.