

LWV DC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

March 2018

CO-PRESIDENTS – BAILEY KOEPEL & SHIRLEY SENARIGHI

LWVDCPREZ@GMAIL.COM

LEAGUE MEMBERS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!

Thanks to the many LWV DC members who have made things happen thus far this year:

Organized and implemented *FOUR* candidate forums: Barb Graul, Jan Livingston, Helen Bacon, Betsy Rossberg, Sandy Brown, Dawn VandeVoort, Susie Kohout, Steven Vickman, Dawn Craig, Charlynn Hansen, Susan McAninch, Tim Graul, Richard Girod, Nancy Fisher, Pat Scieszinski, Laura Lijewski, Cheryl Bishop, Betsy Williamson, Jim Williamson, Lisa Barnaby, Martha Pelrine, Pamela Wegner, Richard Wegner, Mike Brodd, Judy Brodd, Kristi Roenning, Randy Halstead, Shirley Senarighi, Isabelle Vreeke, & Sherry Mutchler.

Voter Registration Support: Dawn VandeVoort, Lisa Barnaby, Charlynn Hansen & Richard Girod

Birthday Cards to 18-year-olds: Jennifer Moeller, Shirley Senarighi, Kristi Roenning, Barb Sweeney, & Jan Livingston

Board Members: Bailey Koepsel, Shirley Senarighi, Lisa Barnaby, Pat Scieszinski, Sandy Brown, Susie Kohout, Charlynn Hansen, Barb Graul, Seth Wiederanders, Mark Moeller, & Helen Bacon

Mental Health & Substance Use Issues Committee: Seth Wiederanders, Lisa Barnaby, Helen Bacon, Susie Kohout, Sandy Brown, Betsy Rossberg, Susan McAninch, and community members Elliot Goettelman, Kent Berkley & Charolotte Baierl.

MEETING ABOUT SPECIAL OBSERVERS FOR STURGEON BAY CITY COUNCIL

A special meeting has been set **Thursday, March 7, at 5 pm** to create a plan for more regular LWV DC observation of the Sturgeon Bay City Council and its committee meetings. It has been difficult for any one of our members to assume this role alone; we can do better with team effort. We believe this will benefit our members and our organization and help the community, the City Council, and its committees. Our role as observers is to gather information – to learn what that body is doing. We take action only when warranted and supported by previously determined League positions. Observers can also learn how issues are being addressed. The League promotes government openness, transparency, and accountability as vital to a healthy democracy. Please join this effort. We will meet at the Senarighi home at 604 West Spruce Drive in Sturgeon Bay.

LETTER TO CITY OFFICIALS

Members will find a copy of the letter sent to Sturgeon Bay city officials requesting copies of policies that cover rules and procedures for the City Council and its members. We also encouraged the city to have an easily accessible, easy-to-read compilation of Rules of Order policies and documents for the City Council and its many committees and to make it available to the public.

VOLUNTEER ELECTION OBSERVERS NEEDED

Help the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin monitor the April 3 election. The LWV WI is seeking volunteers to be trained as Election Observers and placed in polling places in specific areas around the state. Several LWV Door County members have participated in the past. They have been

assigned to locations in Door County as well as a few places in the northern part of Kewaunee County. You don't need to be a League member to volunteer for this -- although we'd love to have you join us! Learn more and sign up to volunteer at <https://my.lwv.org/wisconsin/employment-and-volunteer-opportunities-league>

RAISING OF AMERICA

Please join us for a community viewing and discussion of the ambitious film *The Raising of America*, which seeks to reframe the way we look at early childhood health and development. It illustrates how a strong start for all kids leads not only to better learning, earning, and physical and mental health, but also to a healthier, safer, better educated, and more prosperous community. *The Raising of America* looks beyond parenting to explore how social conditions, public policies, and inequities impact our youngest children.

Sturgeon Bay/Southern Door area – Tuesday, March 20, 5-7:30 PM at the Door County Government Center – Peninsula Room, 421 N Nebraska Ave., Sturgeon Bay

Northern Door area – Thursday, March 22, 5-7:30 PM at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall – McCardle Library, 2392 County Rd. F, Baileys Harbor

A light dinner and refreshments will be available at 5:00 PM; the movie will start at 5:15. Following the film, a panel of community experts will discuss early childhood issues in Door County: Dr. Amy Fogarty, MD, DCMC; Ann Smejkal, elementary principal; Julie Davis, Boys & Girls Club; Caleb Frostman, DC Economic Development Corp.; Sherri Dantoin and JoAnna Severinsen, DC YMCA. Come learn from the film as well as from our panel members and join in the dialogue!

This event is brought to you by a collaborative effort between these sponsors: Door County Medical Center, LWV Door County, UW-Extension, Door County Partnership for Children and Families, Door County Public Health, Door County Department of Human Services, Boys & Girls Club of Door County, Door Tran, HELP of Door County, Sturgeon Bay School District, and Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin.

VOTE! It Matters!

Please put the "VOTE! It Matters" signs out during the week prior to the spring general election on April 3 and then tuck them away again on April 4. Reminder: LWV Vote signs may not be placed in yards displaying signs for specific parties or candidates. If you don't have a sign and would like to display one, contact Barb Graul at 743-6842

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 9 - ELECTION WRAP-UP

There is a meeting of voter service committee members and all others interested to review and reflect on the LWV DC spring election cycle activities – **Monday, April 9 at 1 pm.** We will review policies and procedures to determine any recommendations for changes that will then be submitted to the LWV DC Board. Reflection is helpful as we work towards improved effectiveness and efficiency. Join us at the home of Barb Graul at 354 S. 15th Ct. in Sturgeon Bay. (off of S. 15th Ave. turn onto Pennsylvania, then right onto S. 15th Ct. - house at end of curve)

CIVILITY MATTERS: TALKING TOGETHER

WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 18, 5:00-7:00 PM, STONE HARBOR CONFERENCE CENTER

Attend "Civility Matters: Talking Together," co-sponsored by the Door County Civility Project and Write On, Door County. Hear Dr. Kay Collier McLaughlin, author of six books, including *Talking Together: Getting beyond Polarization through Civil Dialogue*. Rather than focusing on how awful the current conversation in our society is, Dr. McLaughlin will focus on changing the conversation. She not only offers tools, but she also offers hope as a roadmap to action based on practices of civil dialogue. As a leadership consultant, she travels throughout the county and beyond, offering experiential sessions that provide an opportunity for people of differing experiences, opinions, and perspectives to have true dialogue with one another. Kay has a unique background. She grew up as a musician and the daughter of an NFL championship football coach, both adding fascinating perspective to her work as consultant, author, and speaker. There is a suggested contribution of \$20 for this event with a hors d'oeuvres buffet provided. Signed books will be available for purchase with cash or check. Join us...let's talk together!

"PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER" SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 9AM-NOON, STURGEON BAY HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS

Protecting groundwater is the subject of the 2018 event in the Eileen Bohn Speaker Series. On Saturday, April 28 from 9:00 AM to noon in the Sturgeon Bay High School Commons, UW-Oshkosh Geology Professor Maureen Muldoon and USDA Agricultural Researcher Mark Borchardt will provide an overview of Door County's unique geology. They will explain the challenges of protecting our groundwater as supported by current scientific information. A local panel consisting of Door County Corporation Council Grant Thomas, Assistant County Sanitarian Chris Olson, and County Conservationist Erin Hanson will explain what efforts have taken place historically (in the county) to protect groundwater contamination from both human and animal wastes.

ANNUAL MEETING LWV DOOR COUNTY, THURSDAY, MAY 17

We are pleased to announce that a representative from the Race for Equity in Dane County will be our keynote speaker. Race to Equity uses a comprehensive approach to engaging leaders and community members in a broader, solution-oriented dialogue. It is aimed at reducing the profound and persistent racial disparities in health, education, child welfare, criminal justice, employment, and income that plague the nation, state, and county. They seek to reduce these disparities through research, advocacy, and dissemination of information. More details regarding time and location will be forthcoming!

GUN CONTROL POSITION

Several LWV DC members have asked about the League's position regarding gun control. The LWV has a national position arrived at by concurrence in 1990. It states, "The League of Women Voters believes that the proliferation of handguns and semi-automatic assault weapons in the United States is a major health and safety threat to its citizens. The League supports strong federal measures to limit the accessibility and regulate the ownership of these weapons by private citizens. The League supports regulating firearms for consumer safety. The League supports licensing procedures for gun ownership by private citizens to include a waiting period for background checks, personal identity verification, gun safety education and annual license renewal. The license fee should be adequate to bear the cost of education and verification. The League supports a ban on "Saturday night specials," enforcement of strict penalties for the improper possession of and crimes committed with handguns and assault weapons, and allocation of resources to better regulate and monitor gun dealers."

The entire document is found on the LWV website:

http://forum.lwv.org/sites/default/files/impact_on_issues_2016-2018_social_policy.pdf pages 24-27

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT

Donald J. Trump president@whitehouse.gov <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteHouse/>
(202) 456-1111

U.S. SENATORS

Ron Johnson <http://ronjohnson.senate.gov/public> (202) 224-5323

Tammy Baldwin <https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/feedback> (202) 224-5653

U.S. HOUSE (8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT)

Mike Gallagher <http://gallagher.house.gov/> (202) 225-5665

WISCONSIN GOVERNOR:

Scott Walker <http://walker.wi.gov/contact-us> (608) 266-1212

WI SENATE DISTRICT 1

[Open Seat](#)

WI ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 2

Joel Kitchens Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov (608) 266-5350

One complimentary copy of the 2017-18 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. This directory is also online at the Door County government website:

<http://www.co.door.wi.gov/docview.asp?docid=16450&locid=137>