

# LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS<sup>®</sup> OF JANESVILLE

## The VOTER

www.lwvjvl.org

April 2019

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## Communications from the President



Dear Friends in League,

By the time you read this message you probably will have voted in the Spring 2019 election. I want to thank the members of our

Voter Services Committee for their stalwart work to educate and help register voters during this elections season despite inclement winter weather. We hope that many Janesville citizens viewed the video of the City Council Candidates Forum that we conducted at the Hedberg Public Library on March 12 with co-sponsors Forward Janesville and JATV, and that they read the written comments of School Board candidates that we posted on our website. As usual, League members providing valuable service to citizens consistent with the League's motto of "Making Democracy Work."

We invite all League members to attend a timely presentation, **Pathways to Citizenship: Processes, historical and present, of becoming a citizen of the United States**, by Beloit College History Professor Beatrice McKenzie. This free event is open to the public and will be held on the **UWW at Rock County Campus, on Wednesday, April 10, at 6:30 pm.** UWW at Rock County and by the Diversity Action Team of Rock County are co-sponsors of this event.

Part 2 of the three-part documentary series, *Race: The Power of an Illusion* will be shown on Saturday, April 13 in the BASICS Community Room from 10:00 am-noon. You can find links to background reading on the event's entry in this issue and in the Calendar section of our webpage.

Later this month we will send you an important email containing the packet of materials you will need for the **LWVJVL Annual Meeting**. We will hold the meeting on **Wednesday, May 22 at 29 South Café beginning at 6:30.** Come early so you can enjoy some light refreshments and socialize with other League members. In addition to our usual business for our Annual Meeting, we are very pleased that Erin Grunze, the Executive Director of the LWV WI, will be our guest speaker.

A small group of League members have begun exploratory investigation into a possible new study topic: Home-



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# ★ President

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lessness and the Availability of Affordable Housing in Janesville. I expect that we will vote at the Annual Meeting about whether to make a formal study of this issue with the goal of developing a local position that is will be based on and consistent with positions that have been taken by LWVUS and LWVWI. If the members vote to engage in a formal study, you will be invited to participate in the process.

Finally, as many of you already know, Wisconsin was the first state (along with Illinois) to ratify the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution to guarantee

## Come Celebrate the Parade of Progress

The Janesville League of Women Voters and the Women's Fund will present the **Parade of Progress** at **5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 10th** beginning at the Town Square in downtown Janesville. This event is to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Wisconsin voting to ratify the 19th amendment. Although other states had previously granted women suffrage, Wisconsin was the first state to ratify after the amendment was passed by Congress.

After meeting in the Town Square attendees will march to the Janesville Performing Arts Center where

women the right to vote. To commemorate Wisconsin's Ratification of the 19th Amendment, the Women's Fund of the CFSW and the League of Women Voters of Janesville are combining their efforts to hold a special celebration on Wednesday, June 10, 2019. This will be the first of multiple celebrations during 2019-2020 Centennial Year that also marks the centenary of the founding of the League of Women Voters.

I hope you will join us in these celebrations of democracy.

Thank you!!  
Linda

the program will be held in the auditorium. A history of Women's Suffrage and election to public office over the past 170 years will be presented through narration, music, slides and first person narratives ranging from historic figures such as Susan B Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton to current Honorable Judge Barbara McCrory, the first woman elected to the Rock County Circuit Court.

To volunteer or for more information please contact Nancy Sonntag.



Photo Credit Linda Reinhardt

## Laura Seefeld Peterson moderated the City Council forum

To view the forum click on the link that follows: [http://lwvjvl.org/Candidates\\_Forums.html](http://lwvjvl.org/Candidates_Forums.html)



# Pathways to Citizenship:

**Processes, historical and present, of becoming a citizen of the United States.**

**Dr. Beatrice McKenzie**, Associate Professor and Chair of the History Department at Beloit College, will present a brief history of citizenship and of U.S. immigration and refugee policy.

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019 6:30 p.m.**

Allen Hall 106

UW Whitewater at Rock County

2909 Kellogg Avenue, Janesville, Wis. 53546

**Thank you to our co-sponsors for this special event:**





## Celebrating a Win for Democracy

On Thursday this past week, Dane County Circuit Judge Richard Niess ruled in favor of the plaintiffs in the League of Women Voters v. Knutson case and issued an injunction to block the laws passed during the lame-duck session in December 2018. These bills were ruled invalid because they were passed during an “extraordinary session” which was unconstitutionally convened.

Wisconsinites should be able to trust that our elected leaders will respect their obligations and will always act in accordance with the Constitution. This is a

fundamental issue about how Wisconsin wants to be governed.

On Friday, the intervening defendants appealed the ruling to the 3rd District Court of Appeals. The Court of Appeals instructed all parties who want to file briefs to do so by 4:00 pm on Monday and said that no decisions would be made prior to then.

We will continue to post updates to the LWVWI website as we have additional information.

Read LWVWI’s statement and the Circuit Court ruling from the LWVWI website.

Don't forget to vote  
on Tuesday,  
April 2nd!



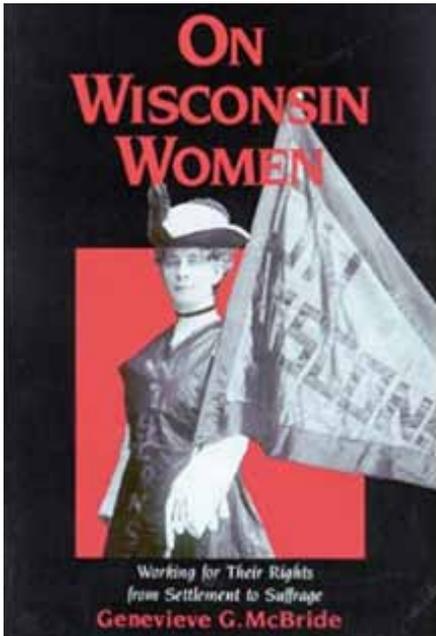


# Annual Meeting Notice



# LWVWI 2019 Annual Meeting Update

## Zabelle Malkasian Speaker Announced



of Wisconsin's suffrage history as we launch a season of centennial celebrations.

Dr. McBride graduated from UW-Milwaukee in 1971 and earned a master's degree at Marquette and a Ph.D. from UW-Madison. She has served on the Historical Society's Board of Curators and as the sole Wisconsin member on the founding advisory board of the National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C. Presently, she serves as an expert resource - again, the only one from Wisconsin - for the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission.

We're very excited to announce that Dr. Genevieve McBride, Professor Emerita of History at UW-Milwaukee, will be the 6th Annual Zabelle Malkasian speaker at the LWVWI 2019 Annual Meeting. Dr. McBride is the acclaimed author of On Wisconsin Women: Working for Their Rights from Settlement to Suffrage (University of Wisconsin Press, 1993). The book traces Wisconsin women's work in reform movements, state politics, and the press and recounts the role of Wisconsin women in the fight for national enfranchisement. We're honored to have Dr. McBride speak on the topic

The 2019 LWVWI Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, JUNE 8th, at the scenic Green Lake Conference Center, in south central Wisconsin. This year's annual gathering will be hosted by LWV Ripon Area. Annual Meeting Registration and Lodging information is posted on the LWVWI website.

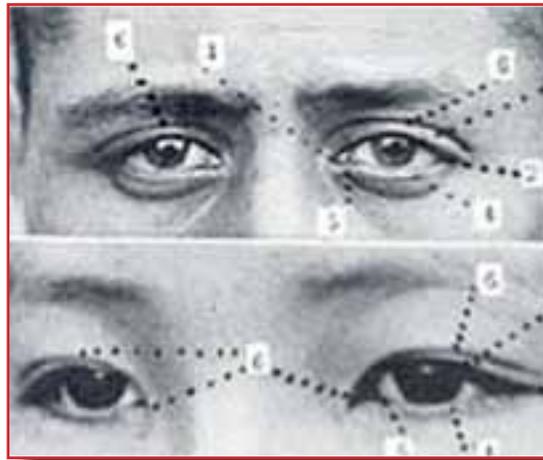
Zabelle Malkasian was a member of LWV Milwaukee County who was active in the League at the local and state levels. Her son, Bill Malkasian, made a generous gift to LWVWI in 2013 to create a lecture series in her honor to extend his mother's legacy as an advocate.

# Community Film Discussion

## Race - The Power of an Illusion

### Basics Cooperative Community Room

Film viewing: 10:00-11:00  
Discussion: 11:00-12:00



#### **The Difference Between Us ... Saturday March 9, 2019**

Episode 1 surveys the scientific findings - including genetics - that suggest that the concept of race has no biological basis.

#### **The Story We Tell.....Saturday April 13, 2019**

Episode 2 provides the historical context for race in North America, including when and how the idea got started and why it took such a hold over our minds.

#### **The House We Live In..... Saturday May 11, 2019**

Episode 3 spotlights how our social institutions “make” race by providing different groups vastly different life chances even today.

Questions? contact Mary Buelow at [buelow\\_m@msn.com](mailto:buelow_m@msn.com)



# CALENDAR

## Upcoming Activities 2018-19\*

\*Additional events may be planned. Check website: [lwwjvl.org/calendar](http://lwwjvl.org/calendar)

### April 2019

April 1 Board Meeting  
April 2 Spring Elections  
April 10 @ 6:30 p.m., Allen Hall room 106. Professor Beatrice McKenzie of Beloit College on the history of citizenship and US

immigration policy.

### May 2019

May 6 Board Meeting  
May 22 Annual Meeting, 6:30-8:00 p.m. @ 29 South

### June 2019

June 8 LWVWI Annual Meeting @ Green Lake  
June 10 @ 5:00 p.m. downtown Janesville **Parade of Progress**

## In Our Community

The Diversity Action Team is going to be a co-sponsor of our Diversity film series and of our April 10 program on the history of citizenship and US immigration policy

Jeanne Carfora asked if we would like to be a co-sponsor of this program of theirs:

**April 25: Housing for Equity and Inclusion in Rock County** 6:30-8:00 pm, at Craig High School, 401 S Randall Ave., South Entrance #37, Janesville, WI

## 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.

## Race--The Power of an Illusion Continues

We hope that you will be able to attend the viewing and discussion series of the second and third portions of the three-part documentary, Race--The Power of an Illusion that will be shown, Saturday, April 13th and May 11th, at Basics at 10:00 a.m.

The last two parts of the series are being shown on the second Saturdays of the months of April, and May. We are pleased that the Diversity Action Team of Rock County is a co-sponsor of this series of events.

Even if you cannot make it to all three events, I think you will be interested in the considering the discussion guide: <http://newsreel.org/guides/race/race-guide-lore1.pdf>

In addition, the PBS website for the series contains much of the same materials and activities in an interactive format: [https://www.pbs.org/race/000\\_General/000\\_00-Home.htm](https://www.pbs.org/race/000_General/000_00-Home.htm)



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.

**To contact the League,  
please feel free to use  
either of these options:  
[www.lwwjvl.org](http://www.lwwjvl.org) or**

**P.O. Box 8064  
Janesville, WI 53547-8064**

## Are you reading this newsletter as a 'guest'?

Joining the League of Women Voters is easy simply fill in this form and mail.

Name

Address

E-mail

Phone Number

Individual \$65.00  
 Student \$30.00

Household \$95.00

I am unable to join the League at this time but enclosed is a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please make your check payable to: League of Women Voters -  
Janesville, P.O. Box 8064, Janesville, WI 53547-8064

I request consideration for a LWV scholarship.

## 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** <[www.lwvwi.org](http://www.lwvwi.org)>

**JANESVILLE LEAGUE**

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