

*OK, the September newsletter is a little early... we want to make sure that you know about Women's Suffrage Day celebration at the Capitol on September 8 – see page 2!*

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**LWV ABC September 9 Meeting – LOCATION CHANGE!!**  
**Census 2020 – What do you need to know?**

Coon Rapids City Hall – 6:30

**Census 2020 - always controversial, but a complete count is critical for our communities, our schools and our state.** Join us on September 9 at Coon Rapids City Hall to hear from census officials and community leaders about how one community in Anoka County is approaching the complete count conundrum.

Gather at 6:30 in the hall outside Council Chambers to view information on the 2020 Census and chat with other community members. The program begins at 7:00 sharp in Council Chambers. Because of the change of venue, we won't be having our usual light dinner, but there will be treats.



The panelists will include Matt Brown, Coon Rapids Economic Development Coordinator; Andrew Verdin, Director of Census Operations from the Minnesota State Demographer's Office; Kathy Tingelstad, former Minnesota State Legislator, and Amir Malik, civil rights attorney. LWV ABC President Gretchen Sabel will introduce and moderate the session. CTN Studios will record the event for cable TV.

Following the formal presentation, the audience can submit their own written questions to the panel. The meeting will adjourn at approximately 8 pm. The League of Women Voters of Anoka, Blaine and Coon Rapids Area (LWV ABC) and the City of Coon Rapids are sponsoring this event. Now's a good time to do a little homework – check out the LWV Action Kit on the Census – you can read the this [at this link](#). See you on September 9 at Coon Rapids City Hall!

**ATTENTION – WOMEN ELECTED OFFICIALS, PAST AND PRESENT**  
**Sunday afternoon, September 8**

*Special activity at 1:00 on the Capitol Steps*  
**A photo of past and current female elected officials.**

**All local, state, federal offices!**

Start gathering on the Capitol steps between 12:30-12:45 pm

RSVP with your info here so that you can receive a copy of the photo:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScRmWaByjT-4UhrGkmu6gihjy5VTUwvUDBRIVuCR2oMeSaW6A/viewform>

**Help spread the word!**

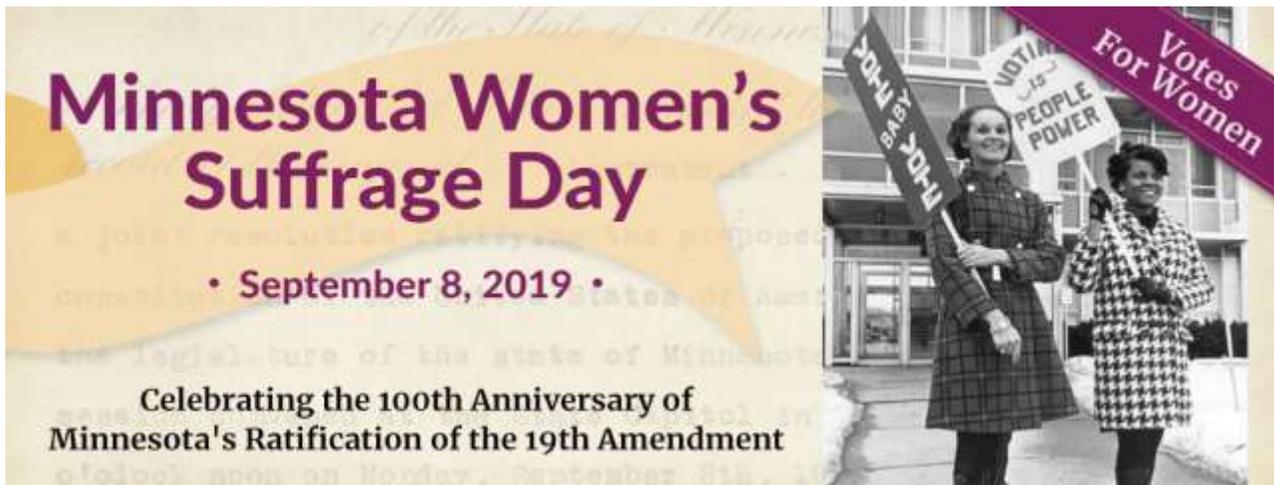


**Everyone is Welcome to Women’s Suffrage Day!**

**Noon to 5:00 PM**

*A family friendly event!*

There will be marching bands, a suffrage parade, food trucks, outstanding speakers, history exhibit, excellent exhibitors at the civic engagement fair, and more! **Check out the details and schedule here:** <https://www.lwvmn.org/minnesota-womens-suffrage-day> (related story, page 1, including carpool and volunteering!)



**Women’s Suffrage Day Celebration – Parades, speeches and more!**

State Capitol, St. Paul – September 8

**12:00 PM – 5:00 PM – CAPITOL GROUNDS**

- Food trucks
- Civic Engagement Fair and voter registration on the front lawn of the Capitol.
- Activities at the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Memorial

**1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – CAPITOL ROTUNDA**

View the suffrage history exhibit "A Century of Civic Engagement: The League of Women Voters Minnesota"

**1:00 PM –CAPITOL STEPS**

- Special photo taken of past and current female elected officials  
*(see related item on page 3 of the newsletter!)*

**1:30 PM – CAPITOL ROTUNDA**

Commemorative program. Featured speakers and guests include:

- MN Secretary of State Steve Simon
- MN Attorney General Keith Ellison
- MN Auditor Julie Blaha
- MN Supreme Court Chief Justice Lorie Gildea
- Former MN Secretary of State Joan Growe
- Josie R. Johnson

Plus, a special performance from the University of Minnesota Marching Band!

**2:30 PM – MINNESOTA WOMAN SUFFRAGE MEMORIAL**

Suffrage parade and dedication ceremony:

- Performance from the Robbinsdale Cooper Marching Band
- Minnesota Suffragists Rally Pop-Up Play (at 12:30 and 4:15pm)



*click the graphic to the left for more info*

**LWV MN is one of the main sponsors of this event – come and show your support for League and celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women’s vote!**

**COME TO THE CAPITOL FOR THIS FREE, FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT!**

Email [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com) if you are interested in carpooling.

Volunteers are needed to help make the event a success – [click this link](#) to sign up!



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**LWV ABC Program Survey**

**Please complete it as soon as possible!**

LWV ABC’s program committee would like to find out how our meeting schedule can best meet the needs of our members. We are considering some new meeting options and need to know what would work best for you. Please click this link and answer the 9-question survey by September 21. We’ll also make it available to members in printed form upon request. [CLICK HERE TO START THIS SHORT BUT IMPORTANT SURVEY](https://forms.gle/4crHtJNxtFuRMLXG6) – or paste this URL into your browser:

<https://forms.gle/4crHtJNxtFuRMLXG6>

**October 14 Meeting**

**Transformative Circles and Friend of League**

Lori Anderson will be our guest at our October 14 meeting. We’ll start in the Andover Senior Center at 6pm and migrate down the sidewalk to City Council Chambers for the program at 6:30. This is our regular meeting and we will be having our usual light supper before-hand.



Transformative Circle is leading the way in Coon Rapids to build a strong, diverse community. This is from [their website](#):

*“As a country, we are more segregated now than during the Jim Crow era. But now it’s self-segregation by choice, not by law. Transformative Circle is one of thousands of grass-roots organizations that are building a nation-wide movement to bring people together who don’t look alike, talk alike, act alike, worship alike, and therefore wouldn’t normally interact with each other. At Transformative Circle, we concentrate on intentional conversation over a wonderful meal, discussing topics that are important to us. We learn about each other, we build trust, we build friendships. Like oak trees, we are forming a web of roots that will sustain and support us when the big winds come.”*

**LWV ABC Handbook Update**

**Updated Handbook now available**

Thanks to the group who gathered on August 15 to go through the Handbook and make changes. We made significant changes in the area of job descriptions for our Board and committee members – take a few minutes to check it out [at this link](#). The handbook also includes information on LWV jargon and processes – if you’ve ever wondered what the heck folks are talking about or why we do what we do, this is the place to figure it out! [Click here](#) to read this Rosetta Stone!

**LWV ABC Board Meeting Highlights**

Arlene Gillett, Secretary

- We discussed our ABC chapter sponsoring a table at the State League's 100th Anniversary Gala, on October 26th, and agreed to go ahead with it. There will be more detailed information about the event coming up soon.
- The Membership Committee has put together a list of the many local celebration days that occur over the summer in Anoka County, and has suggested that we think about having a table at some of them. It would be an opportunity to tell people about what League is, what we do, and also to offer the chance for people to register to vote. The plan is to find out more details about the events, and see if we have members that would be interested in participating.
- Voter Service told us about the upcoming candidate forums this Fall, one on Oct . 2nd for the school board and city council races in Ramsey, and one on Oct. 8th for the Primary election for the recently vacated District 4 County Commissioner Seat. We watched a demonstration of the Sign Up Genius, where we will be able to sign up online to work at a forum, a new activity for us.

**August 12 – Picnic at Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve recap**



Many thanks to the University of Minnesota’s Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve for hosting our August meeting!

**LWV ABC member, citizen scientist and former Minnesota Senator Gene Merriam.** Gene shared his experiences observing Red-headed Woodpeckers at Cedar Creek and talk about his work as a citizen scientist with the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis’ Red-headed Woodpecker Recover Project.

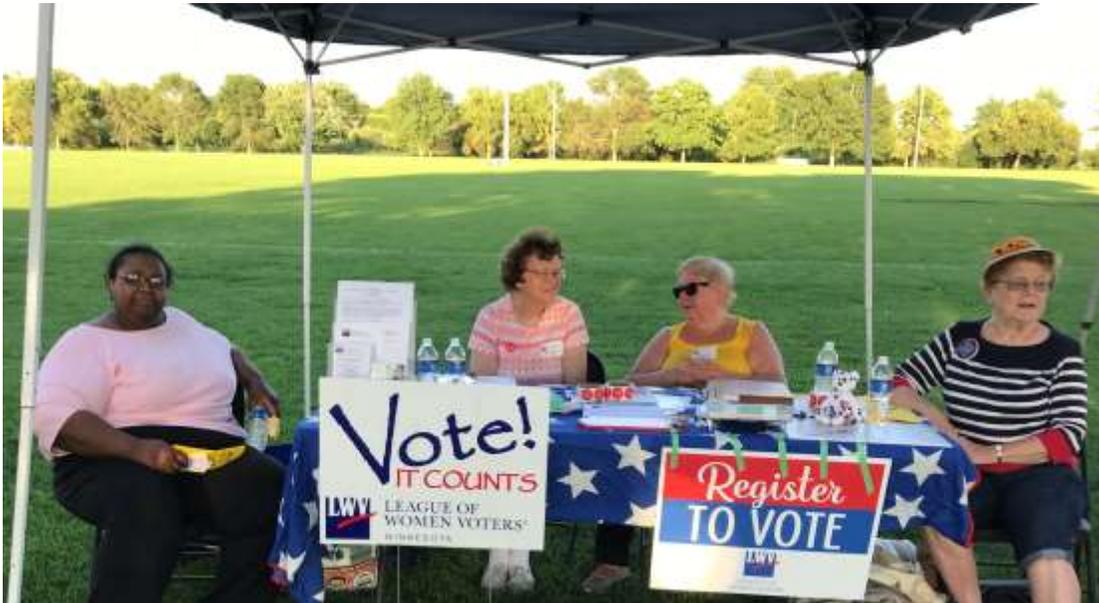
Before the meeting, people gathered for a hike back to Cedar Bog. The weather cooperated and a good time was had by all! The pot luck worked out well, too!



The facility at Cedar Creek is fantastic, very warm and inviting with interesting taxideried wildlife flying overhead at the Lindeman Center. We were joined in this meeting by several community members who saw notice of event on Cedar Creek’s Facebook page. It was nice to meet these folks and share meal and conversation about Redheaded Woodpeckers and LWV.

**Multicultural Night to Unite – Coon Rapids**  
August 6, 2019 at the Coon Rapids Soccer Complex

Thanks to LWV member Kathie Whelchel who organized LWV’s table at the Coon Rapids Multicultural Night to Unite on August 6! Lots of people visited our table and learned about LWV, thanks to the members who helped with the event!



*Booth staff here: Belinda Lawrence, Arlene Gillett, Sandy Connor and Susan Anderson. Additional participants, but not pictured, were Dee Ann Christenson, Luanne Koskinen, and Kathie Whelchel.*

This is the sort of event we are looking for in other communities – read on....

**LWV ABC – Community Outreach**

Submitted by Sandy Connor, Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is compiling a list of community festivals or celebrations where we might have a table. If you are aware of such events in your community, please let us know. If you know any of the following information please let us know:

- Name of event
- What month is it held
- Is there a cost for a non-profit to have a table
- When do we need to register
- Who do we contact to register
- Would you be willing to work with our city and help staff a table

If you don't have all the above information, please still let us know about the event. The Membership Committee would like to have a presence at community events to spread information about LWV, promote membership and encourage everyone to participate in our democracy. How much we can do will depend on costs and availability of people to staff the tables. We hope to spread our representation to several parts of the area where our members live. Please let us know what events happen near you, send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com).

**LWV ABC Candidate Forums – October 2019**

Submitted by Geri Nelson and Arlene Gillet, Voter Service Co-chairs

Two Candidate Forums this fall:

**Anoka-Hennepin School Board Districts 1, 2, and 5.** Incumbents Marci Anderson (2) and Nicole Hayes (5) are unopposed and will appear together on Oct 2nd at the Sandburg Building on 2nd St in Anoka at 6:30 PM. Tom Heidemann (1) is being challenged by Erin Heers-McArtle. This district includes Anoka and Ramsey. The special election for Ramsey city council Ward 3 will follow the school board candidates. Josh Fuhreck and Dan Specht are running.

**The Primary Election for Anoka County Commissioner District 6** has 6 candidates vying to represent the eastern part of the county. The forum will be held at Lino Lakes City Hall, 7497 Lake Dr, Lino Lakes, MN 55014, on Tuesday, Oct 8 at 6:30 PM. We will need lots of people to go to this forum as the public is not used to LWV events in that part of the county.

Volunteer sign-ups will come out soon for both forums. We are trying out use of “SignUp Genius” for volunteer signups. Please watch for an email from LWV ABC soon with a link to the SignUp Genius – we’ll be sending it to all members soon. As always, thanks for your help!

Commissioner District 6 Primary Election Nov 2019	
Candidate Name	Party
Cindy Hansen	Nonpartisan
Craig Johnson	Nonpartisan
Karen Lodico	Nonpartisan
Donovan McGuire	Nonpartisan
Jeff Reinert	Nonpartisan
Kevin Ryan	Nonpartisan



Watch your email for the sign-up link! We will need volunteers to help put on these two forums.

And plan to attend the Primary Forum in Lino Lakes on October 8!

**Drafts and Discourse**

*Thanks to those who have supported this event. We are going to take a short hiatus from this series of events and pick it up again in the fall. Stay tuned!*



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# THE VOTER

September 2019

## Save the Dates:

Monday, September 9 – **LWV ABC Meeting on the Census** – COON RAPIDS CITY HALL – gather at 6:30 for refreshments (no dinner) and chat; program begins at 7 sharp

Monday, September 23 - **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's in Coon Rapids (Hwy 10 frontage road just south of Round Lake Blvd exit). Order food at 11, meeting commences at 11:30. This is a good opportunity to learn more about what LWV ABC is up to!

Wednesday, October 2, 6:30 pm – **Candidate Forum for Anoka Hennepin Board members Districts 1, 2 and 5, and Ramsey City Council Ward 3.** Sandburg Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Anoka.

Tuesday, October 8, 6:30 pm – **Candidate Forum for Anoka County Commissioner, District 6.** Lino Lakes City Hall, 7497 Lake Drive.

Monday, October 14, 5pm – **LWV ABC Meeting on Transformative Circle.** gather at 6:00 at Andover City Hall for a light meal, then migrate to City Council chambers at 6:30 for the program.

Monday, October 28 - **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's in Coon Rapids (Hwy 10 frontage road just south of Round Lake Blvd exit). Order food at 11, meeting commences at 11:30. This is a good opportunity to learn more about what LWV ABC is up to!

## **Do you have Information to share with LWV ABC?**

### **Four ways to stay in touch with LWV ABC**

**Visit our public website:** [www.lwvabcmn.org](http://www.lwvabcmn.org). If you need a refresher on accessing the Members Only section of the website, send an email to [lwvabc@gmail.com](mailto:lwvabc@gmail.com). We will reply with the link for you to bookmark.

**We're on Facebook:** Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook".

**Our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*:** Members and other interested persons receive our newsletter by email in the early part of each month. Issues are also available on our LWV ABC website, [www.lwvabcmn.org](http://www.lwvabcmn.org).

**Not a member of LWV ABC?**  
**Help us Make Democracy Work!**



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Join LWV ABC using [PayPal](#) or by using the [Membership Form](#).

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