



Winnebago Voter

May / June 2009

Calendar May & June

Monday, April 27 6:30 – 8:30PM
Parks Consensus Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 pm Oshkosh Public Library

Monday, May 4 Soapbox Series #6
5:30 – 7:30 PM
Joe Heller, syndicated political cartoonist, Green Bay Press Gazette "The Art of Political Cartooning"
\$35.00 per person
Oshkosh Country Club
11 W. Ripple Ave.

Wednesday, May 13 (See page 5)
Food for Thought Lunch 12:00 PM
Vitale's Italian cuisine, 215 W. Murdock
Nichole Hall, WI Dept of Corrections
Sex Offender Registration Program

Friday/Saturday May 29-30
LWVWI Annual Meeting
Holiday Inn, Manitowoc (See page 6)

Thursday, June 4 (See page 5)
LWV Annual Meeting 5:00– 7:30 PM
Vitale's Italian cuisine, 215 W. Murdock

Monday, June 8 5:30 – 7:30 pm
League Board Meeting
Zuppa's, 1540 S Commercial St
Neenah, WI 54956

Wednesday, June 10 (See page 5)
Food for Thought Lunch 12:00 PM
Vitale's Italian cuisine, 215 W. Murdock
Jason A. Kakatsch, Principal Transportation Planner East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

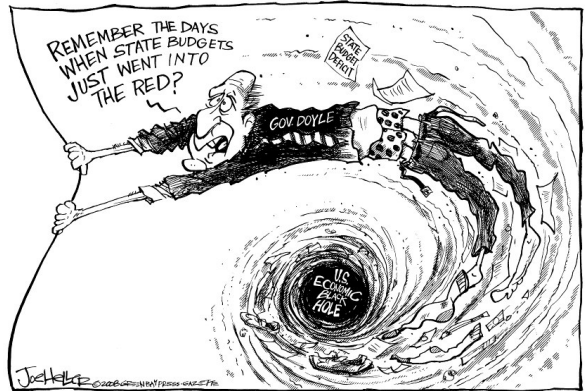
You are invited
Monday May 4, 2009
5:30pm-7:30pm

League Soap Box Series #6
Green Bay Press Gazette Political
Cartoonist

Joe Heller - The Art of Political

Cartooning

Hors d'oeuvres Buffet
& Program
\$35.00/person
Oshkosh Country Club
11 W. Ripple Ave.



For Reservations

Make checks payable to:
League of Women Voters of Winnebago County
1202 Algoma Blvd., Oshkosh WI 54901

For more information: Kathy Propp
(920)231-4770, jkpropp@earthlink.net

Reservation deadline: April 28, 2009

*Enjoy an evening of tasty food, good conversation,
and find humor in the events of the day.
Support the work of the League of Women Voters*

21st Century Success Depends on Changing Schools

Cheryl Simonson, CESA 6 Instructional Services Director, outlined what is needed for schools to produce students who will be successful in the 21st century. Through a PowerPoint presentation at the March LWV lunch she stated the issues that impact students:

- Accelerating technology
- Changing workplace
- Globalization
- Demographics
- Values/beliefs

“Soon there will be a shortage of skilled workers,” she said, “fewer workers filling the taxpayers’ bracket.” The big question is “Are we proactively ‘re-tooling’ education to provide our students with the knowledge, skills and dispositions that they will need in the future to be able to achieve and maintain a viable life style?”

To illustrate the change in industrial base, one slide listed the 2000 base: General Motors, Wal-Mart, Exxon, Ford, General Electric, IBM, Citigroup, AT&T, Philip Morris and Boeing; another slide listed the 2010 base: software, aerospace, genomics, bioinformatics, nanotechnology, photonics, Micro Material, Finance, IT, and robotics.

CESA 6 has linked with Dr. Willard Daggett’s agency International Center for Leadership in Education to provide seminars for teachers, administrators, school board members and interested community members. Dr. Daggett’s presentations illustrate the 21st century skills for success and lead schools to implement these. The new literacy centers on skills, such as critical and systems thinking, interpersonal and collaborative skills



League Holds Four Candidates Forums

To carry out the voter service charge of the League, the Winnebago County LWV held four candidates forums.



panel member

Two forums were held in Oshkosh and broadcast on Oshkosh Community Media CitiCable 10 and radio 101.9 FM. The March 23rd forum had the school board candidates. Joining Jonathan Krause of News Talk 1490 WOSH Radio was moderator Frankie Mengeling and Morgan Redemann, Oshkosh West High School junior (*pictured left*). The second half of the forum featured Paul Esslinger and Frank Tower, Oshkosh mayor candidates.

The March 26th forum was for Oshkosh Common Council. The County Executive candidates, Mark Harris and Jay Schroeder, debate followed. Kathy Propp was moderator and Jonathan Krause

The Menasha Aldermanic Districts 1, 3 and 7 were represented by candidates in a voters’ forum on Thursday, March 19, 2009 at the Menasha Senior Center. Interesting questions were written by the audience and covered a variety of areas including the budget, attraction for new businesses, TIFS, Lake Park Villas, taxation, etc.

The Neenah Voters’ Forum on Thursday, March 26, 2009 included the Aldermanic District 3 race. This was then followed by the Neenah Joint School District School Board Candidates forum. Site was the Neenah City Hall and taping was done by the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley. Broadcast was on Time Warner Cable Channel 2 at 6 p.m. on April 2.



South Park

Photo by Tom

Parks Consensus Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Monday, April 27, 2009
Oshkosh Public Library

League approved a study to update the local Parks and Recreation position at the 2007 and 2008 annual meetings. A parks committee was formed to review the position. The committee visited and evaluated all city and area parks, researched various issues, hosted Food for Thought lunch programs with the city arborist and the city's storm water utility engineer, and met with local planning and park staff.

Following are the consensus questions. Supporting information can be found on our Web site and also will be forwarded for those who have email, and mailed to those without email. Please print out and review the information and come to the meeting prepared to update the position for adoption at the annual meeting.

Consensus Questions: The consensus is divided into two sections.

Part I. Existing Position. Review each statement of the existing position. Should the statement (1) remain as is (2) be revised, or (3) be eliminated?

Part II. New Issues. These topics are partially or not covered by our existing position. Review each statement. (1) Do you agree with it? (2) Are there other issues to be addressed?

Existing Parks and Recreation Position*

The Oshkosh Area League of Women Voters supports adequate park and recreational facilities to meet local and area wide needs.

- A. Promote provisions for parks wherever new areas are subdivided.
- B. Encourage alternate methods of financing park acquisition.
- C. Support protection of park areas from encroachment.
- D. Support acquisition of new park land; emphasis on preserving and restoring natural features of acquired and existing parks; implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- E. Encourage inclusion of hiking and biking trails in parks; development of a recreational trail plan.
- F. Support continuation of the Parks Advisory Board.
- G. Encourage development of marine facilities to accommodate many types of craft.

New Issues

- 1. Support adequate funding for park maintenance, improvements and acquisition.
- 2. Promote cooperative park-related activities among the city, school district, county and towns and encourage regional facilities and town parks where feasible.
- 3. Ensure environmentally sound maintenance and management practices.
- 4. Support an aggressive urban reforestation program.

5. Maintain attractive and clear signage where appropriate.
6. Support a comprehensive events policy that considers neighborhood needs.
7. Support equitable distribution and maintenance of facilities in all parks.
8. Ensure availability of adequate information about park and recreation facilities.
9. Support timely updating and implementation of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
10. Support interdepartmental cooperative planning between Parks, Community Development and Public Works where their missions overlap (e.g. tree planting, parks acquisition, storm water pollution reduction, etc.
11. Promote public access to the waterfront wherever possible.

Storm Water Management Huge Task for City

James Rabe, (*pictured on right*) Oshkosh civil engineer with the Storm Water Utility, was April's Food for Thought lunch speaker. Stormwater management falls into two categories: stormwater quality, and stormwater quantity

Stormwater control, a federally mandated program, is run by the Department of Natural Resources in Wisconsin which grants permits to municipalities exceeding 10,000 in population.

The first half of Mr. Rabe's presentation dealt with stormwater quality. Under this heading come the hot topics such as control of illicit discharge, erosion control and pollution prevention. Currently the city is drafting ordinances that will prevent cross connections, dumping into storm sewers, and inspection of outfalls.

To control erosion at construction sites will require another ordinance and education of contractors and developers.

The biggest expense and most difficult to achieve is the reduction of pollution solids discharged into our lakes, rivers, and streams. The city met the 2008 mandate of a 20 per cent reduction of pollution (360 tons per year), but further reduction of 317 tons per year to reach the 40 per cent goal mandated for 2013 will be difficult to reach. Some stormwater quality basins such as the one at Fair Acres not only control flooding but also allow settlement of solids thereby keeping them out of the storm sewer and the lake.

Practices to meet the quality requirements include:

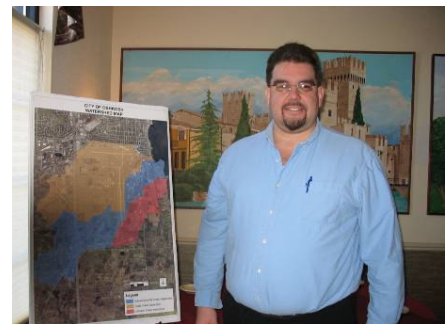
- ★ Enhanced street sweeping
- ★ Catch basins with sumps
- ★ Stormwater quality ponds
- ★ Meeting or exceeding redevelopment requirements
- ★ Replacing roadside ditches with engineered swales
- ★ Incorporating biofilters into existing development

The second category, stormwater quantity, brings to mind the flooding from heavy rains in 1993, 2001, 2004 and 2008. Two projects have been nearly completed:

1. Anchorage Basin which includes Fair Acres Pond, Harrison street relief channel, additional culverts under Canadian National Railroad at Libbey Avenue, and upgraded Nevada storm sewer. The city received one millions dollars in grants for this project which has significantly reduced flooding the basin area. Left to do here are upgrades on storm sewers.
2. Baldwin Basin is the second nearly completed project. A 200,000 dollar municipal Flood Control Grant provided money for the construction of Baldwin Pond. Storm sewer upgrading on streets in the basin area will be reconstructed in the next one to five years.

Ongoing studies begun in 2005, 2008 and 2009 are at Campbell Creek, Sawyer Creek, Stringham Creek, Libbey and Nicolet, and Glatz Creek. It takes 9 to 18 months to move from inception of study to completion. Lastly there are four areas of upcoming studies: Johnson Creek, Gallups/Merritts Creek, Fernau Watershed, and West Murdock Avenue.

Mr. Rabe illustrated his presentation with pictures of flooding in the city, pond construction and also large maps showing creeks, their basins and areas of flooding.



Winnebago County LWV Annual Meeting – Thursday, June 4

Where: Vitale's Italian Cuisine – Vitale's has prepared a short menu for us featuring lasagna, Caesar salad with chicken, a vegetarian dish and a chicken pasta—all modestly priced.

When: Social Hour 5:00 PM; Dinner 5:30PM Meeting 6:30 to 7:30 PM

Across the USA, local leagues meet in May or early June to set their agendas for the next year. The local recommended program items arise from Lively Issues meetings in January and February.

Meeting Agenda:

- I. Bylaws changes—primarily this consists of the name change reflecting the merger of Neenah/Menasha LWV and Oshkosh Area LWV. The name will change to Winnebago County LWV
- II. Approval of blending of local positions from the two leagues
- III. Approval of 2009-2010 budget
- IV. Selection of recommended local program items for 2009-2010.
 - A. Impact of state levy limits on Oshkosh city services—continue study for 2009-2010
 - B. Update of Oshkosh parks and recreation position. Study has been completed.
 - C. Update Community Living and Mass Transit Positions in 2009-2010
- V. Report from the Nominating Committee:
 - A. Officers - May 2009-2011
 - ★ President Kathleen Propp
 - ★ Secretary Ann Marshall
 - B. Elected for two year Board term:
 - ★ Susan Nuernberg
 - ★ Jan Scalpone
 - ★ Carol Codner
 - C. Proposed appointments for one year Board term:
 - ★ Jeanne Shiras
 - ★ Peggy Cox
 - ★ Donna Lohry
 - D. 2010 Nominating Committee members (non-board) : Zaiga Freivalds and Cynthia Thorpe

May and June lunch presentations Look into Sex Offender Treatment and Transportation

Nichole Hall, our May Food for Thought lunch speaker, is a graduate of UW Madison with a degree in Behavioral Science and Law with a Criminal Justice Certificate. She is employed with the Department of Corrections since 1995. From 1995-2001 she was a Probation and Parole Agent supervising a caseload of high risk sex offenders. Since 2001 she is a Sex Offender Registration Specialist covering Fond du Lac and Winnebago Counties. Her presentation will cover the following topics: Sex offender dynamics; registration and community notification; recidivism; residency restrictions.

Our June Food for Thought presenter, Jason Kakatsch, has been with the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in Menasha for over six years serving as a Principal Transportation Planner with oversight of many small and large scale multi-modal transportation projects. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - Madison, at which he studied geography with an emphasis in human systems and processes, urban planning, and regional development. Jason also currently works with Outagamie County to administer their 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program and has provided staffing services directly to Valley Transit for various financial and contract management related tasks. Jason also serves on numerous multi-modal transportation committees, councils, and boards, which includes serving as Chair of the Winnebago County Specialized Transportation Council since 2006. He resides in his hometown of Manitowoc with his wife Laura and two daughters Ella and Nadia.

Annual LWV Wisconsin Meeting Agenda
League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Network
Annual Meeting, May 29-30, 2009
Holiday Inn Manitowoc

Friday, May 29, 2009

1:00-3:00 pm **Training/Program Sessions I**

- ➔ --Statewide Deputy Voter Registration (by Govt. Accountability Board)
- ➔ --Q & A on Proposed Budget Classroom

3:30-5:00pm **Plenary Session I**

5:30-7:30pm **Social/reception**

Dinner on your own

Saturday, May 30, 2009

8:00-8:30am Check-in and continental breakfast

8:30-9:30am **Parade of Leagues** (registration and breakfast continue)

9:30-10:30am **Opening Keynote:**

2010 Census – A Blueprint for Policy, Funding and Representation

- ➔ -Catherine Montoya, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

10:45am-12pm **Training/Program Sessions II**

- ➔ -Statewide Voter Registration (by Govt. Accountability Board)
- ➔ -Redistricting – Ed Miller, UW Stevens Point

12:00-1:20pm **Luncheon: Keynote and Award Presentation**

A Comparison of Health Care Reform Proposals

- ➔ -Melanie Ramey, President, LWVWI; Executive Director, HOPE of Wisconsin

Meg McLane Advocacy Award

1:30-3:30pm **Plenary Session II**



For the fastest way to get your LWV Winnebago County Voter, sign up to get yours by email. Added plus, all the pictures are in color! Email frankiemengeling@sbcglobal.net for this service.

Misplace your newsletter? Want to find something in a previous newsletter? Need a copy of the Parks consensus discussion? Need a copy of the local program positions? Need to find out about upcoming elections? Go to our web site: www.oshkosh.wi.lwvnet.org.

LWV Winnebago County Membership Form

LWV is a non-partisan political organization that encourages citizens to register, vote and participate in government. LWV works to increase understanding of major public policy through education and advocacy. Membership is open to both women and men 18 years old or older. Dues are \$45 per individual, \$70 per household, \$10 per student

Name: _____ Email _____
Address _____ Phone _____

Send this form with payment to Karen Boehning, 1202 Algoma Blvd. Oshkosh, WI 54901



American Council of Young Political Leaders meets the National Movement of Young Legislators. *By: Jessica King, League member and Oshkosh City Council member*

From March 13-24, 2009, I had the opportunity to represent the United States on an international exchange program to the Philippines on behalf of the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). ACYPL is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with 100 countries. I was a member of a bi-partisan delegation of seven other young political and policy leaders from across the United States.

The host organization in the Philippines was the National Movement of Young Legislators (NMYL). This organization has 7,000 + young elected officials aged 35 and below. The organization focuses on encouraging youth to enter and participate in the areas of politics and governance. This organization regularly conducts education seminars, leadership trainings, legislative advocacy as well as the advancement of youth related causes and programs in the fields of education, sports, livelihood, culture and arts.

Each day we explored a new municipality and/or unit of government, and engaged in candid dialogue with our elected counterparts (somehow without international incident). The topics ranged from the environment and infrastructure development to micro credit and population control.

Overall, I was impressed with the level of comprehensive plan implementation by the local governments of the Philippines. I witnessed the results of local municipalities overcoming challenges by implementing their vision based on their unique comparative advantage. I would like to share just two highlights from my trip.

Quezon City from Tragedy to Community Triumph

July 1, 2000, 300 people died and hundreds of families were left homeless after a hill of garbage from what was a 30 year old misused open dumpsite fell on a slum community. Today, this location in Quezon City, Philippines, is home to the Payatas Methane Gas Power Plant. Quezon City is the first Urban Center to implement the Solid Waste Management Act in the Philippines. The city government initiated developmental and rehabilitation works, including slope re-profiling, stabilization and greening, leachate collection and recirculation, drainage system improvement, fortified roadways and access to the site, gas venting and material recovery. All these processes were aimed at the rehabilitation of the dumpsite to address: environmental health and safety, stability of the dumpsite, safety and livelihood needs of the immediate community.

It was amazing to tour this facility and understand what a significant accomplishment it was for Quezon City to overcome such a challenge in less than 9 years. While in Quezon City, I also had the opportunity to tour the highest quality fire truck in the country. I was proud to see that it was a Pierce fire truck!

Island Garden City of Samal: We have bees, they have bats!

I had the pleasure of touring the Monfort Bat Cave. I have to admit that when I first saw this on the program I was not excited. This cave is home to 1.8 million fruit bats, the largest colony known in the world. Normally bats are seen as scary, unlovable mammals. Upon discovery of the colony some local citizens wanted to remove it and transform the land use. One woman, Ms. Norma Monfort, started a preservation movement and gained the necessary community support to turn the area into a conservation park. The Island Garden City of Samal has developed an educational program to inform the public of the role of bats in the city's ecosystem, securing a strong biodiversity, which is the basis of the city's ecotourism. The city now holds bat festivals, and I had the opportunity to listen to a performance of the sophomore class of the Holy Cross of Babak in Samal Island as they performed their winning Bat Jingle, an entry during the recent Bat Festival held earlier in March.

Overall, it was an incredible journey that I will never forget.