



League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area
Annual Report 2018
May 30, 2018

- In March, we reached the milestone of 5,000 in number of voter registrations since the program began in 2011. This includes registrations in high schools and colleges, at naturalization ceremonies, and League events.
- With co-hosts American Democracy Project and ABC-TV, successfully hosted two candidate forums and two debates attracting overflow crowds during the primary election season. The Democratic primary debate for the 2nd Congressional district had to be moved to a large auditorium to accommodate the crowd. This debate also garnered national exposure through two articles published by The Washington Post.
- Increased our membership for 81 members to 107 members under official census taken in January.
- With co-sponsor American Democracy Project, successfully published Vote411.Org platform for 2018 primary election. Response rate was ELIZABETH??
- Brought in nine excellent speakers for our Lunch with the League series, held the second Tuesday of the month. Speakers included State Rep. B. Patrick Bauer, D-South Bend; Paige Risser of the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi tribe; Ruth Warren of Indiana Vote by Mail; Willow Wetherall of Ignite Michiana; Dr. Kenneth Spells, supt. of the South Bend Community Schools Corp.; Becky Reinbold of Just Goods; Dr. Elizabeth Bennion, of IUSB; Jill LaFountain of the Girl Scouts of Northern Indiana and Michiana; and Jim Williams of Habitat for Humanity.
- Updated the Citizen's Guide and published 3,000 copies for distribution in late February. (This number is 1,000 less than the normal 4,000, due to 2017 being a non-election year and producing only a few changes in elected and appointed officials.)

- Partnered with Michiana Women Leaders Project, founded by Terri Russ, to honor 12 local women at the annual Celebrating Michiana Women Leaders event on Aug. 26. The women were: Eileen Hughes, Oletha Jones, Wanda Mangus, the Hon. Jenny Pitts Manier, Annie Mannix, Jamie Morgan, Lisa Plencner, Rebecca Price, Jesusa Rivera, Renelda Robinson, Sister Ameenah Pasha Starks and Ida Reynolds Watson.
- Our Friend-Raiser on Oct. 25 at First Unitarian Church, South Bend, attracted 45 people. The Making Democracy Work Award went to Tony Flora, who is a League member. The event raised at least \$2,295.00 through a silent auction and cash donations. Many of the items needed to pull off this event, such as linens, tableware, beverages, food and hall rental were DONATED.