

# The League Letter

March 2021

## From the President

*“The public is invited to a “Gerrymeander” with the League of Women Voters on Sunday, July 16, at 2:00 pm on the Jackson Creek Trail.”*

So began a 2017 press release for a public event to educate citizens about the need for independent, nonpartisan redistricting for Indiana. The meander occurred on July 16, the eve of Elbridge Gerry’s birthday. In 1812 Gerry, governor of Massachusetts, signed into law a redistricting map that included an exceedingly partisan Boston-area legislative district drawn in such a way that it resembled a salamander, giving rise to the term “Gerrymander.” Since then, lawmakers of both parties have frequently engaged in gerrymandering following the U.S. census. And this unfair redistricting is the basis for very flagrant instances of voter suppression and inequity.



*Boston Gazette, March 26, 1812*

Now, here we are. It’s 2021, and although census results have been delayed, redistricting by the Indiana legislature is around the corner. Court cases have come and gone; reform bills have been introduced and died in committee.

So, is this the end? Not exactly. Even now, the newly formed Indiana Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC) is conducting public meetings in each of Indiana’s nine Congressional districts. ICRC members will collect testimony during these meetings, which will be compiled and presented to Indiana’s legislative leaders. Mapping contests will be conducted, judged by how well they meet criteria identified as important to citizens and based on compliance with state-required elements.

The goal is to influence the 2021 redistricting process by showing that citizens prefer a nonpartisan, transparent process with public input, not a closed process conducted by legislators. Go to the [webinar registration site](#) to sign up for the March 10 hearing for District 9. The future of Indiana voters is at stake.

*Ann F. Burch*

## For Your Information

### Action Alert: Congress Must Pass the For the People Act

This year, we celebrated the reintroduction of HR1, the For the People Act, in the U.S. House of Representatives. This sweeping piece of legislation is the most expansive democracy reform agenda we have seen since the Voting Rights Act, but after it was first introduced in 2019, it never reached the president's desk. With the start of the 117th Congress it is imperative that the For the People Act continue as a top priority. [Tell Congress](#) to pass the For the People Act as a first order of business in the new administration. Here's why we need a comprehensive package of democracy reforms:

- It should be easier, not harder, to vote. The For the People Act improves access to voting with reforms like Same Day Registration and Automatic Voter Registration.
- More needs to be done to protect voters' voices. The For the People Act requires independent redistricting commissions, ends voter roll purges based on failure to vote, and restores the Voting Rights Act.
- Our government should respond to the will of the people, not the interests of powerful corporations and wealthy donors.
- The For the People Act includes strong provisions for improving transparency in campaign finance and strengthening government ethics enforcement.

### People Powered Fair Maps Landing Page Is Live



The LWVUS has officially launched the People Powered Fair Maps (PPFM) landing page! Anyone can learn more about PPFM and get a glimpse into the work that is being done across our nation to ensure a fair and transparent redistricting process.

[Check it out!](#)

### Lake Monroe: Be a Scientist for a Day

From Maggie Sullivan, Lake Monroe Watershed Coordinator: Curious about water quality in Monroe and Brown counties? Want to be a citizen scientist? Volunteers are needed on Friday, April 2 (rain date April 16) from 9 am to 4 pm to collect water samples from the streams that flow into Lake Monroe/Salt Creek. Join the Friends of Lake Monroe and the IU Limnology Lab for a one-day water sampling blitz. Data from this study will be used to support development of a watershed management plan for Lake Monroe. All event activities have



been designed to allow for social distancing, following CDC and local guidance. We had a great time sampling the watershed in September and hope you can join us this spring!

Volunteers can choose one of five staging locations – Bloomington, Nashville, Story, Gatesville, or Freetown. No experience is needed and training will be provided. Teams of two will collect water samples and evaluate stream habitat at several assigned sites. (Partners that are not from the same household will travel in

separate vehicles and maintain social distancing.) Teams may return to the staging location at any time for a bathroom or lunch break and will deliver all samples to the staging location before heading home.

Lake Monroe has one of the prettiest watersheds in Indiana – come explore! Please [register](#) by March 12. More [details](#) about the event and about the watershed management plan are available. Remember the community forums co-hosted by the League and Friends of Lake Monroe? Read a summary [here](#).

## Update on Juliana Climate Change Case

Juliana v. United States is a landmark case involving 21 young people’s constitutional challenge against the U.S. government for its role in causing the climate crisis. The plaintiffs claim that the government’s actions, and conversely inaction, have contributed to the climate crisis, in violation of their constitutional right to life, liberty, and property. They argue that the government has failed to protect essential public trust resources. LWVUS and LWV of Oregon filed amicus briefs in support of the plaintiffs in this case and urged the court to validate the plaintiffs’ rights to sue the government to preserve constitutional rights. On Feb. 17 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals denied the plaintiffs’ motion for a rehearing with the entire circuit. Despite this setback, the League is committed to continuing the fight against climate change and supporting brave young plaintiffs like the 21 in this case.

## If It’s March, It’s Women’s History Month



*Operating a hand drill at Vultee-Nashville, this woman is working on a “Vengeance” dive bomber, Tennessee*

[Women’s History Month](#) as a national celebration began in 1981 with U.S. congressional action for a “Women’s History Week.” In 1987, after being petitioned by the National Women’s History Project, the U.S. Congress authorized the month of March 1987 as “Women’s History Month.” Since then, this designation has been renewed by proclamation every year. According to the website, “These proclamations celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and recognize the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history in a variety of fields.”

Last year was significant in that it was the centennial of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which states “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.” Recognition of milestones like this and celebrations such as months designated for Black History, Women’s History, Hispanic Heritage, and Native American Heritage took solid hits from the effects of COVID-19. In-person events could not be held and many of them did not translate well to videoconferencing. However, by the summer of 2020, everyone was beginning to adapt and some innovative ways of involving the public emerged.

Our League had extensive resources on the centennial on our website, but after moving to our new web platform a few weeks ago we have not yet integrated the centennial webpages. Look for them soon. In the meantime, the Women’s History Month [website](#) is a good place to start. For Bloomington, the usual in-person celebration will be replaced with a virtual event. The [Women’s History Month Celebration](#) will premiere on Wednesday, March 24 at noon on the city’s [Facebook site](#). The theme of this year’s celebration “Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced,” celebrates the centennial of women’s right to vote and honors the women that fought to win suffrage rights for women, and those who continue to fight for the voting rights

of others. The event will include two outstanding speakers and award presentations to the 2021 Woman of the Year, Toby Strout Lifetime Contribution, and Emerging Leader award recipients. — *Ann Birch*

## Redistricting

### Partnering to Do More Together



The Leagues of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County, Brown County, and South-Central Indiana have teamed up to tackle the issue of redistricting in U.S. Congressional District 9 and the state legislature. According to one Brown County member, “We are all in the 9<sup>th</sup> district so it makes sense to work together by going outside of our usual group to learn and support one another in this work.” In addition to the Leagues, other partners include the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the

National Organization for Women (NOW), and Reverse Citizens United (RCU). Working together allows more people to contribute, which should allow the partnership to accomplish more than if each group worked alone.

Partnering has been beneficial in the past, for example when two Leagues have lobbied together and attended legislative updates to hear from shared legislators. Now, with redistricting right around the corner, the Leagues are holding Zoom meetings, hosted by the Bloomington League, and are developing a PowerPoint presentation about redistricting that will be shared among partners. The presentation will be available this month. The format includes a seven-minute film about redistricting and gerrymandering, followed by a look at district maps from 2011. Finally, data will be shared showing why Hoosiers need redistricting reform. A key point is the harm that can be done to representative democracy (by the people, for the people) when legislators in safe districts fail to support legislation that the majority of voters want, such as raises for teachers and increased funding for public schools ([Hoosier Survey 2020](#)).

### “Speak Up” for Democracy on March 10



The current focus for our League and our organizational partners is encouraging attendance at the Indiana Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC) hearing for District 9, scheduled for March 10. The ICRC will host virtual meetings to collect testimony from Hoosiers on how best to redraw electoral districts. The plan is to demonstrate that redistricting done by a diverse and multi-partisan team of Hoosiers, in a transparent process that encourages public participation, yields districts that are better for voters. The ICRC will also announce a map-drawing contest for citizens and will share the link to a web-based mapping application. Citizen-drawn maps, along with testimony, will be shared with state legislators. The ICRC will ask legislators to explain any differences between the maps.

Please plan to attend the meeting for our congressional district, where Hoosiers will provide input about criteria that should be used to draw electoral district maps. For example, should districts emphasize compactness? What about competition—should maps be drawn to encourage competition between parties? How about incumbency status—should districts be drawn “incumbent blind?” What are the communities of interest in each Congressional district (e.g., racial, social, urban, rural)—should they be kept intact or be divided?

It is important that the ICRC hear from a broad range of Hoosiers. The virtual meeting will be via Zoom from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10. It is crucial that legislators know what voters want because redistricting will be a major impact on our representation and legislative agenda for the next 10 years!

The [Webinar Registration](#) screen will prompt entry of your name and email address and email a Zoom link to that address.

U.S. Congressional District 7's ICRC meeting was held on February 24. The remaining eight U.S. Congressional districts will meet on the following dates:

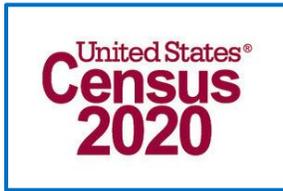
- **March 3:** Wednesday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, 6:00-8:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 5
- **March 6:** Saturday, 3:00-5:00 pm EST, 2:00-4:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 1
- **March 10:** Wednesday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, 6:00-8:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 9
- **March 13:** Saturday, 3:00-5:00 pm EST, 2:00-4:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 3
- **March 16:** Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, 6:00-8:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 6
- **March 18:** Thursday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST 6:00-8:00 pm, CST, U.S. Congressional District 8
- **March 23:** Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, 6:00-8:00 pm CST, U.S. Congressional District 4
- **March 30:** Tuesday, 7:00-9:00 pm EST, 6:00-8:00 pm, CST, U.S. Congressional District 2

## **What Else Can Hoosiers Do to Support Redistricting Reform in 2021?**

Contact [Vickie Dacey](#) to:

- Request a "Support Redistricting Reform" sign for your yard
- Schedule a Redistricting 101 virtual presentation for your church or organization
- Volunteer with the Redistricting Reform Campaign
- If you are not a League member, you can sign up for action alerts at <https://lwv-bmc/subscriber>. If you are a League member, you can sign up for alerts by logging in to the website, going to your profile, and clicking on Interests/League activities.
- Attend Legislative Updates on Saturday mornings (9:30 – 11:00 am) on March 6 and April 10. Register through the [website](#).
- Call, email or hold a Zoom meeting with your legislators and urge them to support the work of the ICRC, citizen-drawn maps, and a transparent redistricting process for 2021. Go to [Find your Legislator](#) – for the Indiana General Assembly, 2021 Session to learn the name and contact information for your state and U.S representatives.
- Spread the word through social media, friends, and family!
- Call or email your U.S. Senators and urge them to vote for HR1 (S1), the [For the People Act](#), which prioritizes democracy reform legislation. Protections or expansions in the act that pertain to voting and redistricting include:
  - End partisan gerrymandering by establishing independent redistricting commissions
  - Prohibit voter purges that kick eligible voters off the registration rolls
  - Expand early voting and simplify absentee voting
  - Institute same day and automatic voter registration
  - Enhance election security with increased support for a paper-based voting system and more oversight of election vendors — *Vickie Dacey*

## U.S. Census Bureau Releases New Timeline for Delivery of Redistricting Data



On February 12, 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau announced that delivery of 2020 census data has been delayed until September 30, 2021. This and previous delays are attributed to COVID-19-related issues and the prioritization of the delivery of apportionment results. Previously, the Census Bureau's plan was to deliver redistricting data to the states by March 31, 2021.

The process of releasing these data will differ from previous censuses. The Census Bureau will deliver data for all states at once, instead of on a cascading basis. The redistricting data include counts of population by race, ethnicity (Hispanic or Latino origin), voting age, housing occupancy status, and group quarters population, all at the census block level. This information is used by states to redraw or redistrict legislative boundaries.

For Indiana, this means the Indiana General Assembly will need to schedule a special session and return later in the fall to draw new maps for U.S. congressional seats and the state legislature. The Census Bureau has provided states with prototype geographic support products and data tabulations from the 2018 Census Test to help them design their redistricting systems for 2020. This tool will help to minimize the impact of the delay. — *Vickie Dacey*

## Voter Service

### February Legislative Update



*Rep. Matt Pierce, Sen. Shelli Yoder, Rep. Jeff Ellington, Moderator Mary Morgan, Rep. Peggy Mayfield*

Four state legislators participated in our February Legislative Update: Senator Shelli Yoder and Representatives Matt Pierce, Peggy Mayfield, and Jeff Ellington. In their opening remarks the legislators discussed several topics, including complications of legislative processes during the pandemic (fewer hearings, and most meetings far from one's office), the budget calendar, TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), school funding and assessment, and civil immunity from COVID-19. From the 50 people in attendance, six

audience members asked questions about how accurately the political affiliations of elected representatives reflect the partisan preferences of Indiana voters, the Commission for Women, handgun permits and stand your ground laws, the impact of COVID on TANF, bills to stop municipalities from regulating residential housing design, and state oversight of charter and private schools. CATS provides a [video](#) of the event.

The next Legislative Update will be cosponsored by three groups: the League of Women Voters of Bloomington-Monroe County, the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, and the League of Women Voters of Brown County. We will meet via Zoom on Saturday March 6, 9:30-11:00. You can [register in advance](#). — *Ralf Shaw*

## Big Ten Voting Challenge



The Big Ten Voting Challenge (BTVC) meeting in February focused on both big picture items and ways to move forward. The first included the national [ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge](#) and a [Voter Friendly Campus](#) designation for IU. Participants also considered ways to support and facilitate election engagement and conversations about the practice of democracy in everyday life. For example, on Jan. 8 a [panel of professors](#) of history, law, and political science, drawn from three campuses, spoke about events at the U.S. Capitol two days earlier. BTVC can reach out to various groups and departments, asking “How does democracy affect you?” and relate the discussion to building the democracy habit. The LWV is a way to help people feel heard, through Legislative Updates and the redistricting project — which has an IU-PACE (Political and Civic Engagement) intern. PACE is working to identify a student to replace Josephine McCormick on LWV-BMC Board when her term ends.

Moving forward, the group can consider alerting students who are moving away to cancel their voter registrations before leaving campus. This could be as part of communications to all graduating students, in a “before you leave” checklist for all students, or possibly involving the Alumni Association. In fall the UN-sponsored International Day of Democracy (September 15) and (U.S.) Constitution Day (September 17) will provide opportunities for fall semester activities. Issues such as redistricting and the U.S. census, as well as having a book club or article club, are other ways to maintain momentum in a non-election year. —*Annamaria Mecca*

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## Climate Change

### Call for Action on Climate Legislation

As many of you know, the U.S. League of Women Voters supports carbon pricing as an approach to mitigating climate change; and President Biden has made addressing climate change one of his top priorities.

The most durable policies are bipartisan and are passed into law. [Citizens’ Climate Lobby](#) (CCL) has been lobbying Congress since 2007 to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation. Most economists (see below) view this as a potent and effective approach. A bipartisan bill embodying this policy, called the [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#) (EICDA) was introduced in the House during the last Congress and garnered over 85 co-sponsors.

The Climate Change Unit encourages you to support CCL’s lobbying efforts during its March Lobby Days, March 22 to 26, by calling or emailing your senators and representative before March 22. A polite and focused ask is most effective, so please keep your message clear and simple. For your senators, “Experts agree that carbon fee and dividend would be the best first step to solving climate change. Please support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act when it is introduced in the Senate.” For your representative, change the last part to “...when it is re-introduced in the House.” If you are not comfortable supporting the EICDA specifically, just ask them to support a comprehensive carbon pricing bill or, more generically, meaningful action on climate change.

- [Rep. Trey Hollingsworth](#) (IN-09); 202-225-5315
- [Sen. Todd Young](#); 202-224-5623
- [Sen. Mike Braun](#); (202) 224-4814 — *Richard Durisen*

### ***Indiana Economists Support Carbon Fee and Dividend***

In related news, over 50 economists from Indiana University, Purdue University, and the University of Notre Dame published an OpEd in the *Indianapolis Star* on February 18, 2021, supporting carbon fee and dividend legislation: [50 Indiana economic experts: In one voice, we ask Hoosiers in Congress to act on climate](#). A companion news story addressed carbon pricing: [50 economists speak for Indiana, 'a coal state,' call on Congress to act on climate](#). Feel free to reference these when you call or write your members of Congress. — *Richard Durisen*

### ***Please Join the LWV-BMC Climate Change Unit***

This year will be pivotal for addressing climate change at all levels, but large meetings with face-to-face interaction are not likely to resume soon, in the League or elsewhere. If you are interested in joining the League's climate discussion group or wish to raise any climate issue, be that personal, community-related or of wider concern, please call or write to me, [Albrecht Holschuh](#), 812-345-8614. — *Albrecht Holschuh*

## LWV-BMC Member News

### League Updates

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#### Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is contacting members about open board positions and committee needs in advance of our May annual meeting. Committee members are: Josephine McCormick and Annamaria Mecca (co-chairs), Carolyn Waldron, and Kaye Hill. If one of us gives you a call, please consider what we have to say and share your ideas.

The League has many activities going on right now. We continue to work on redistricting initiatives, civic education, increasing and diversifying membership, and voter service to name just a few. As with many organizations, a few people often end up doing most of the work. The Nominating Committee is working to grow the League's leadership and membership and ensure its sustainability. We aim to share the responsibilities and tasks among more people, so that the League will continue to succeed and fewer people will be overburdened. Sustained growth will allow us to build a sense of community and common purpose. — *Annamaria Mecca*

#### Member Planning Meeting March 22



On Monday March 22, from 6:30-9:00 p.m., we'll have our final member planning meeting for 2021-2022. Members attending will vote on recommendations for positions and programs, which the board will consider before the May annual meeting. Participants on March 22 will also get a glimpse of other topics that will come up at the annual meeting. To register, go to [Member Login and log in to the website](#). Then scroll down to Upcoming Meetings and Events, then March 22. Click on the listed event,

then click the Register Now button. Please register soon. There will be more information in the mid-month email.

#### Impact on Issues 2020-2022 Available



A Kindle version of the most recent *Impact on Issues* is available on Amazon. The pdf can be accessed on the LWVUS [website](#). *Impact on Issues* is designed to help League members use LWVUS public policy positions effectively at the national, state, local, and regional levels. The intention is to inspire Leagues to use national positions to act in their own communities. A paperback version of the booklet should be available through Amazon soon.

### Observer Corps – City of Bloomington

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#### Board of Park Commissioners

At its February 18 special meeting, the Board of Park Commissioners heard an appeal regarding the removal of 23 trees in Lower Cascades Park. The person making the appeal had seen the signs posted in the park and

asked if the project could be slowed down and the timeline extended to better disseminate information to the public.

Erin Hatch, Urban Forester, stated the project is geared to address major streambank erosion along Griffy Creek. The project has been modified to accommodate tree preservation. As part of the project, mitigation planting of native trees will be at a ratio of 5:1. Tim Street, Director of Operations, stated that design of the project took into consideration erosion, safety, preservation of mature trees, and access. Laurel Cornell, Tree Commission Chair, noted that the Commission reviews plans for all public works projects that involve tree management. The Cascades Project involved both tree removal and erosion mitigation. The Commission recommended modifications, which resulted in an excellent design that preserves as many trees as possible.

The appeal was denied 4-0. Paula McDevitt, Director of the Commission, thanked the petitioner for participating in the process. She thanked the Board for hearing her appeal and explaining the process.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on Feb. 23, James Whitlatch was introduced as the new Board member to replace Les Coyne. Kim Clapp was reelected Board secretary.

In addition to routine activity, the Board considered the sale of alcohol at Switchyard Park for community events such as trivia nights, movies, and concerts. Local vendors would be authorized to sell beer and wine. Vendors would be responsible for keeping bar areas separate from food areas and would be required to follow all park rules. If a private party booked the park for an event, such as a wedding, the organizers would be responsible for getting their own alcohol permits. The proposal was approved 4-0. — *Diedre Todd*

### ***Bloomington Community Farmers Market Advisory Council Meeting***

At the February meeting, Leslie Brinson noted that the farm vendor applications for reserved spaces were due; 34 of the 54 vendors who have applied to date are requesting reserved spaces. Seven food and beverage vendors have submitted applications, which have yet to be reviewed. The market will start 2021 with the same number of vendors it had at the end of 2020. Contracts are now being sent out—either by mail or email—with application approval letters. Signed contracts need to be returned at least by the opening day of market in April.

Some vendors who require a Health Department license are now selling at multiple markets. Brinson agreed to find out whether a separate license is needed for each venue; at \$100 per license this would be quite costly. No final decision has been reached as to whether an online market would be offered this year. The decision will be based on how many vendors are interested and how costly it would be. If offered, vendors would be charged a fee.

Of the 39 applicants for market coordinator, three will be selected for final interviews. The job has many administrative duties but also requires some knowledge of agriculture or gardening, the ability to supervise others and communicate well, and some skills in conflict resolution. A college degree is preferred but not required.

The vendor space reservation meeting will be held via Zoom on March 4. Those unable to attend can submit their top three space choices by proxy. Due to the pandemic, market points (which determine priority in allocation of spaces) were not awarded in 2020; therefore the points from 2019 will be used. — *Elaine Gaul*

## Observer Corps – Monroe County

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### Monroe County Community School Corporation

In a pre-meeting hearing on Feb. 23, Board president Cathy Fuentes-Rohwer called for a recommendation to fill the District 5 school board vacancy left by the death of Keith Klein who passed away in January. Board member April Hennessey, following Indiana code 20-23-4-30, recommended forwarding the five candidates (Steve Hinnefeld, Erin Cooperman, Kathleen Field, Lucy Fischman, and Deborah Myerson) to a Monroe County circuit court judge to make the appointment. The motion was approved unanimously with the request that the appointment be made before the March 23 Board meeting.

In her MCCS Foundation report, Mrs. Helm mentioned that Indiana Senate Bill 342 (educational tax credit) has moved successfully through the Senate and now awaits a committee assignment in the House. The bill encourages donations to education by awarding a tax credit of 25% of the amount donated (tax credits are deducted directly from tax liability).

During public comments, Monroe County Education Association Union Representative Paul Farmer said that although 90% of Indiana students attend public schools, more and more funding is going to the remaining 10% of students. Farmer estimated that if all proposals currently before the legislature were enacted, the money going to that 10% would approach 40 to 50% of all educational appropriations. He also stated that Indiana ranks 51<sup>st</sup> among the states and territories in teacher raises and that it would take \$50 million to put us on par with the salaries in surrounding states. He urged us to continue to fight for better funding—in reality, he said, the dollars don't follow the students and the choices the legislators tout are not actually available to many of the children.

Dr. Winston and Dr. Prenkert gave a presentation on the *STEM to Them* mobile lab for which the corporation received a \$2 million grant. The lab became operational this month; it will circulate to every elementary school twice each year, providing hands-on experience and instruction in science, technology, engineering, and math as well as art.

In her personnel report, Dr. Mobley introduced Bradley Lucas as the new Director of Building Operations and Sam Fleener as the new Director of Construction, Facilities, and Safety. — *Elaine Gaul*

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#### Photo credits:

- Pg 1 Library of Congress
- Pg 2 Steve Higgs
- Pg 3 Library of Congress Flickr Photostream: Women Striving Forward, 1910s–1940s [http://www.flickr.com/photos/library\\_of\\_congress/2179077437/in/set-72157614805050380/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/2179077437/in/set-72157614805050380/)
- Pg 6 Community Access Television Services (CATS) <https://catstv.net/m.php?q=9313> at 41.09/132.17
- Any photos not credited were provided by League members.

## LWV-BMC Leadership

*The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through advocacy and education.*

### 2021-2022 Leadership

League members are welcome to attend any board meeting or suggest agenda topics. Board meetings will be held by videoconference on the second Monday of each month through June 30, 2021 from 6:30 pm–8:00 pm. Contact [Ann Birch](#) if you wish to attend.

#### OFFICERS

**President (2021):** [Ann Birch](#); 989-430-4075

**Vice President pro tem (2021):** Doris Wittenburg

**Secretary (2021):** Nancy Boerner

**Treasurer (2022):** Carol McGregor

#### DIRECTORS

**Director (2022):** Richard Durisen

**Director (2022):** George Hegeman

**Director (2021):** Annamaria Mecca

**Director (2021):** Josephine McCormick

**Director (2021):** Ted Emigh

**Director (2021):** Elaine Amerson

**Director (2021):** Diedre Todd

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Membership:** [Kaye Hill](#)

**Program:** [Vickie Dacey](#); Elaine Gaul

**Voter Service:** Ralf Shaw; [Mary Ann Williams](#)

**Communications:** Ann Birch

**Civics Education:** [Becky Hill](#); co-chair position open

#### OTHER LEADERS

**Budget:** George Hegeman

**City-County Land Use:** Jim Faber

**Climate Change:** [Albrecht Holschuh](#)

**Historian:** Patty Callison

**Newsletter:** Ralf Shaw

**Nominating:** Josephine McCormick; [Annamaria Mecca](#)

**Observer Corps:** Diedre Todd

**Publicity:** Nancy Boerner

**Social Media:** Becky Hill

**Website:** [Jenn Harmless](#)

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